

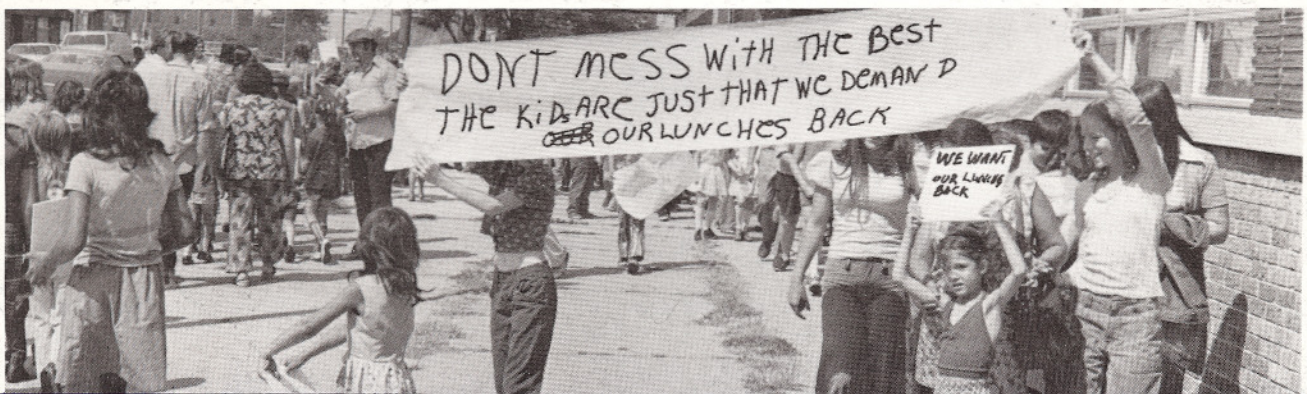
KEEP STRONG

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FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT!



In This Issue:

1

FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT!



2



3



4



5



KEEP STRONG SEPTEMBER, 1976

COLUMNS

Editorial: "From One Generation to the Next"	Page 2
"On the Street"	Page 4
Welfare Rights: Public Aid Limits Ambulance Service	Page 6
Unemployment: Wisconsin Group Fights for Rights of Unemployed	Page 6
On the Job: Urban Miners: Deep Tunnel Construction	Page 8
Health News: "That Dust Will Eat You Up"	Page 10
Tenants' Rights: CHA Shirks Responsibilities	Page 11
A Contract Sale, A Lot of Promises, Deterioration	Page 12
Arson Watch: Community Center Bombed	Page 13
Legal Rights: The Big Sweep, or The Big Lie?	Page 14

Police Watch: Police Charged with Perjury, Obstructing Justice	Page 16
Fighting City Hall: Tenants' Rights an Issue in City Council	Page 17
Mayor Daley: "I Have No Recollection"	Page 18
National Perspective: Agricultural Workers Organize for Political Power	Page 36
Farm Workers Mobilize Support For Prop. 14 Campaign	Page 37
Mexicanos Demand Justice	Page 39
Intercommunal Perspective: Colonial Status of Puerto Rico Slated for Debate at U.N.	Page 41
Black Rebellions Spread in South Africa	Page 43

FEATURES

Black Lung Movement Grows: Representatives of Chicago Area Black Lung Association Participate in Conference	Page 19
Uptown Children Confront State of Illinois — "We Want Our Lunches Back"	Page 22
Chicago 21 Plan: "Their Vision of the Twenty-first Century Doesn't Include Us"	Page 24
The Schools in Marquette Park: Teachers' Group Charges School Packing"	Page 27
No Justice in San Quentin 6 Verdict: The Cover-up of the Assassination of George Jackson Continues	Page 29
"On Withdrawal" by George Jackson	Page 32

In This Issue

1. A protest march by hundreds of Uptown children that won them back their summer lunch program represents still another generation in struggle. See Editorial, page 2 and feature, page 22.
2. "Progress and to hell with safety," describes conditions for workers on new Chicago sewage tunnels. See page 8.
3. There was a strong showing at the black lung conference in West Virginia in the miners' fight for safety and adequate benefits. See page 19.
4. Johnny Spain: Was he sacrificed by a jury not able to fully admit this government has planned assassinations? See page 29.
5. When this community center was bombed, there was no police investigation. See page 13.

«From One Generation to the Next»

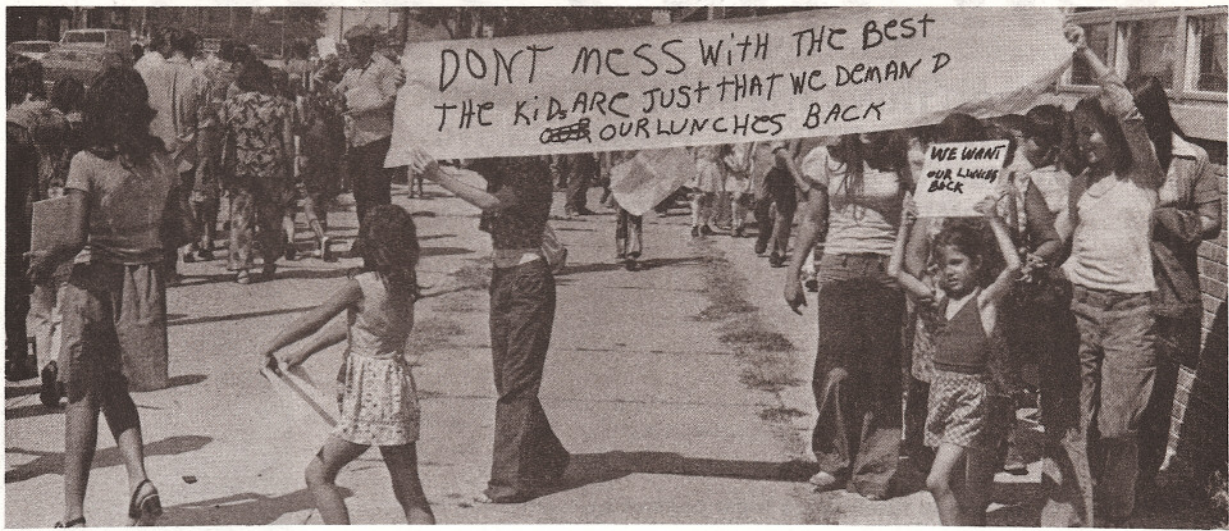
Last month KEEP STRONG sent a reporter and a photographer along with Chicago Area Black Lung Association representatives to meet in West Virginia with black lung associations from seven states. There the next step in the struggle for survival of retired and disabled coal miners, their families and widows was planned. In Chicago's Uptown, the grandsons and granddaughters of some of these same miners joined with children of factory workers and farm workers, and of families that cannot find work, to picket the State Department of Food and Education for the return of a lunch program that had been taken away. This is what we mean by the words "from one generation to the next." We mean we are still struggling to survive, and the rich and powerful are still attempting to steal the best part of our livelihood and the best years of our lives.

On the other hand, there is always something or somebody to tell us things are about to get better, that some party or some person is going to "fix it for poor people." So many times we give up the struggle because of false promises. And when we give up, we die inside as well as outside.

Last month, in Uptown, James Plummer, 20 years old, was senselessly shot down and killed as he stood at night near his home. He was killed because of senseless contradictions between poor people. If the man who fired the shot had been struggling together with James Plummer for the things we need and have a right to, there would have been no killing — there would have been brotherhood instead.

Last month, a thousand confused whites lined up to do battle against two hundred Black people, who were marching for equality and dignity. We feel those whites, some of them very young, had died inside.

Every time there has been struggle in this country, there has been a Richard J. Daley or a Jimmy Carter or some other fraud to tell us to "lay it down while we provide for you." But we will never get what we need unless we organize to get it. We will never have brotherhood or sisterhood among us unless we are struggling together for our collective survival. And we will never be free unless we ourselves take freedom. This is true from one generation to the next. □



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ON THE STREET

"DO YOU THINK THE SCHOOLS IN YOUR COMMUNITY WOULD BE BETTER IF PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY HAD MORE DIRECT INFLUENCE ON THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS' UNION?"

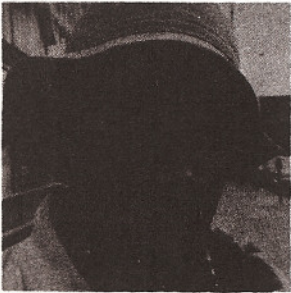
**Leona McCord
N. Clarendon**

"I definitely think more local control over anything is superior."



**Stanton Montgomery
S. Abbott**

"Yes, of course, because they are more aware of the problems, I imagine, by living in the neighborhood than somebody from someplace else."



**Marcia Cruz
Evanston**

"Yes, I think they would . . . because the people in the community know more about what's happening than the other people like the boards, because they're in the community, and they know what's going on with the schools, more than the other people do."



**Sadie Skeen
N. Dover**

"Yes, because I feel the people in the community are the ones who suffer because their children are the ones that go to school, and we're more familiar with what goes on inside the school, and we're more familiar with what goes on with our children. Those people are really insensitive, because they don't live in the community, and they are of a different culture, to an extent."



During August the Peoples Free Lunch for Children Program, sponsored by the Intercommunal Survival Committee, was cancelled by the State Department of Education and Food. The children from the program and their parents participated in a demonstration that brought the program back into the community the next day. **KEEP STRONG** later interviewed many of the children who participated all summer and asked them:

"Why do you think the program was stopped?"

"Why do you think you got the program back?"



Sharon Bridges

- "So we wouldn't have no lunches. So the kids can't eat."
- "Cause we yelled our guts out. We had to yell our guts out to get them."

Annette Buchner



- "Because they don't like us, and they probably want to kick us all out of the community."
- "Fight the government."



Sylvia Gross

- "I don't know why."
- "Because we marched."

Marie Culver



- "Because the government was giving too much money out, and they didn't want to give the lunches to poor people."
- "Because we went down there and fought for our rights."



Connie Hagy

- "I heard that the man didn't like the kids on the Mall to have any lunches."
- "We went down there and voted."

WELFARE RIGHTS

Public Aid Limits Ambulance Service

In a special *KEEP STRONG* survey of Chicago ambulance services, testimony emerged revealing a new public aid policy for recipient payment to the services which may result in virtually excluding ADC mothers and their children from emergency ambulance service.

When an ADC recipient is in an emergency situation requiring ambulance service between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays she must first call her public aid office and make a request for an ambulance. If the office determines from the phone conversation that the recipient is "eligible," then the emergency victim waits while the welfare office calls an ambulance service. The ambulance is required to take the victim to the nearest hospital, even if this hospital is not equipped to treat him or her.

ADC recipients and concerned ambulance services alike complain that in a life or death emergency the time it takes to get a call through to welfare to obtain authorization and for the employee to call the ambulance could be fatal. In addition, recipients point out that public aid office phones are continually jammed up so that an emergency victim may get busy signals for anywhere from ten minutes to an hour, hardly an adequate system for emergency response and treatment.

The policy of going only to the nearest hospital effectively denies the individual the right to choose his or her doctor, hospital and ambulance service. And while the policy was implemented by the state to "save money," it will result in many cases in double payments being made by the state, as hospitals and doctors will routinely transfer a patient to a hospital where their own doctor, medical records and past x rays are.

If an emergency occurs after 5 p.m. closing time at the public aid office, or over weekends, the recipient may call the ambulance service directly. But the ambulance service must call public aid the next day and argue for authorization of a payment for services rendered. Unreasonable and arbitrary denials of payments by ADC are making ambulance companies wary



"There's going to be some people who die waiting for public aid to call an ambulance."

of giving any emergency service at all to ADC recipients.

Since the new policy went into effect, there have already been several cases of negligence on the part of the state. On two different occasions, heart attack victims were denied ambulance service because they were still able to walk. A four year old boy with extremely severe stomach cramps was sent a taxi as an alternative to ambulance service. The reason the state gave for its action when questioned was that his mother was able to carry him and therefore did not need emergency treatment in an ambulance. As the owner of one progressive ambulance service put it, "There's going to be some people who die waiting for public aid to send an ambulance." □

UNEMPLOYMENT

Wisconsin Group Fights For Rights Of Unemployed

In Wisconsin, as in many states, if an insurance company disputes a work-related injury you can

wait up to five or six months to get a hearing. You receive no compensation during this period. Sometimes it takes years to resolve a complicated case. While you wait you can lose everything you have worked all your life for.

Ted Uribe, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, knows about this problem. Before he started the Esperanza Unida Industrial Workmans Compensation Program seven years ago, Ted worked for Allis Chalmers Corp. in West Allis. A Korean veteran, he worked for 17 years there before he was fired from his job for being injured.

In the process of losing his job, Ted learned a lot about the system of compensation and how it works (or doesn't work). He learned that you can be sold down the river by your family doctor as well as the company doctor and by the union as well as the company. He also found out that this can happen before you realize what is going on.

Because he was denied compensation (he won three years later), Ted and his family had to go to Welfare where he was trained by the WIP (Work Incentive Program) as a workman's compensation specialist. He then went to work in the South Side community helping other injured workers with their cases. "We all have a reason for being in the community," says Ted. "I'm here so they do not do to my brothers and sisters what they did to me. You can't do it alone. The system will destroy you if you try to do it alone. Every one needs support when they are injured. That's why we are here."

One of the things that is heard at Esperanza Unida is that you have to have had an industrial injury to know what the problems are like; what it is like to have the company doctor say there is nothing wrong with you; to have the union start to agree with the company that the pain is in your head; to have the company recommend another doctor and then find out when you get there that the guy is a psychiatrist; the feeling of finally winning a case after three years and getting a \$4,000 check from a \$10,000 settlement (the rest going to lawyers, doctors and other professionals).

The person who is lost in this system is the worker who is injured for the first time, does not know how things work, does not even know his or her rights. Esperanza Unida is providing orientation and para-legal services to over 100 industrial injury and unemployment cases.

For the last seven months this program (the only one of its kind in the state of Wisconsin) has been functioning without any funding. Ted and the only other staff person, Ricardo, have been unemployed for almost a year. Because of their need, people from Esperanza Unida and other community residents formed the Concerned Citizens Committee. This committee has been petitioning the Social Development Commission for the last year to try to get a response to the needs of the community. This agency, which was initially founded as a poor peoples' institution, administers all of the federal anti-poverty money that comes into the city of Milwaukee—over \$15



Esperanza Unida demonstrates; "The people are not sleeping anymore. We have woken up."

million dollars. For some reason, though, nobody seems to admit that the problems of injured workers exist. To admit that there are injured workers in the streets means among other things that the laws are not protecting accident victims, and that this system really is more interested in production than it is in people, because companies are allowed to dispose of workers who can't produce at the moment in the same way a car is junked.

In the last year the Concerned Citizens Committee has exhausted all the administrative remedies of the Social Development Commission and gotten no results. This lack of response from the Commission has forced the Concerned Citizens to go into the streets and picket. In August they marched in front of the downtown offices of SDC and also the office of the Commission's board chairman. Picketing is not the only action that the people have taken. Says Uribe, "The people are not sleeping anymore. We have woken up. We are starting action in the federal court also. We have learned from the past what we have a right to. We have all worked hard all our lives and paid our taxes. Now when we need help we get nothing. Well, they can't fool us anymore. We know what we have a right to, and we will do what is necessary to get it." □

ON THE JOB

Urban Miners: Deep Tunnel Construction

Decent paying jobs are hard to come by these days, and when you do find one often you have to put up with dangerous conditions in order to keep it. Workers at the Kenny Construction Company's deep tunnel construction project have reported to *KEEP STRONG* that they face this problem.

Kenny Construction Co. is one of several hired to build a massive underground network of sewers and overflow tunnels throughout Chicago. The tunnels range from 20-30 feet in diameter and travel some 200-300 feet underground through solid rock. The total project, officially named TARP (Tunnel and Reservoir Plan), is



"Let the supervisors go down there for three or four shifts. I'll bet we'd get some action fast."

currently scheduled to be completed in ten years at a cost of over \$6.4 billion.

Kenny has begun one 30 mile section of the network at a site near McCormick and Howard. There is a shaft 30 feet in diameter that drops 220 feet below. From there the tunnel has gone about 30 feet in each direction. If things go good they can go about eight feet a day using three shifts.

Workers at the site agree that the pay is decent but charge that the working conditions are very dangerous. They point out that many dangers could be rectified if the company followed common safety practices and if equipment and operations were regularly inspected by federal or state inspectors. A good example was a recent rock slide in the tunnel. After blasting, the supervisor is supposed to have someone rake loose rock off the walls before the miners begin drilling again. This has not been the case at Kenny, and it caused a slide. The miners struggled to get to the bottom of the shaft and had to holler for 20 minutes, because the radio was out, before they got someone's attention up top. The miners pointed out that the radio is

frequently out of commission and that communication depends on flashlights which are barely visible up top. As one miner put it, "At Kenny it's progress, and to hell with safety."

Other safety violations pointed out were:

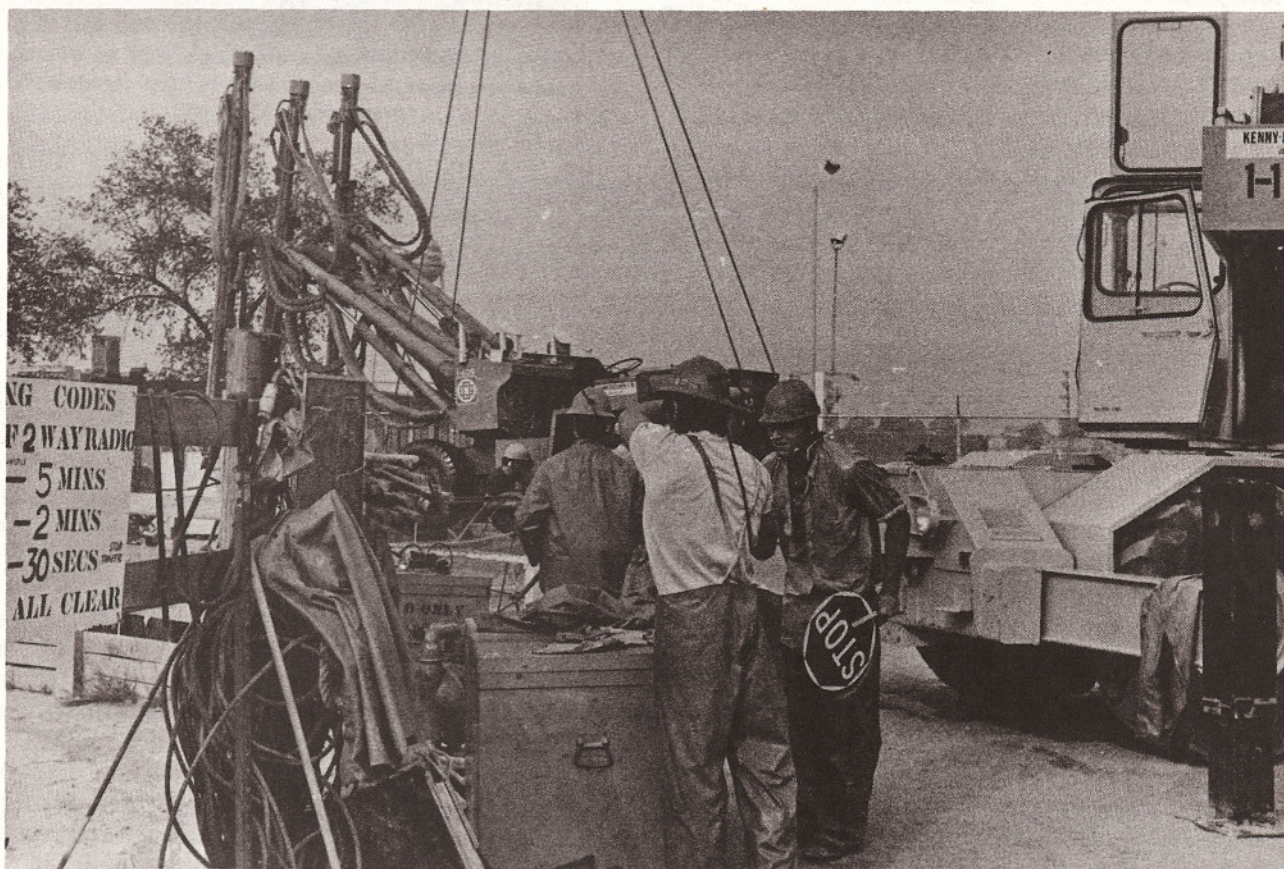
- No first aid vehicle or trained personnel on hand to deal with medical emergencies. Miners are given no course in first aid.
- Poor air circulation in the tunnels.
- Little or no checks for natural gas build-up.
- Supervisors send dynamite and blasting caps together on the same trip down the shaft. (By law they are always supposed to be separated).
- No assistant for top man, so if he's not by the shaft hole communications don't exist.
- Ear plugs provided are like the ones used in swimming and after awhile begin to irritate the ears (need headphone type).
- No safety inspectors.

- Heavy machinery and supplies are lifted in and out of the shaft while the miners are underneath.

In addition to the complaints about safety, the workers are also dissatisfied with their union, the Sewer and Tunnel Miners Union, Local No. 2. The union has been deducting 10 cents an hour for strike pay and has gone out on strike one day in ten years. One of the miners told *KEEP STRONG*, "It's a company union; the steward is kin to one of the bosses of the company."

Safety is just one of the ways the company shows its lack of concern for its employees. Recently one miner was injured when a 70 pound drill fell on his leg. After six days off he went back to work hoping he could make it through the day. A couple of hours on the job showed his leg to be too sore to work any longer. A supervisor told him to go home and not to come back until it healed. When the miner asked about pay while he was out, the supervisor replied, "Suffer."

The workers only ask for some type of regular check on safety procedures and equipment. As one miner who wished to remain anonymous said, "Let the supervisors go down there for three or four shifts. I'll bet we'd get some action fast." □



As one miner put it, "At Kenny it's progress, and to hell with safety"

HEALTH NEWS

"That Dust Will Eat You Up"

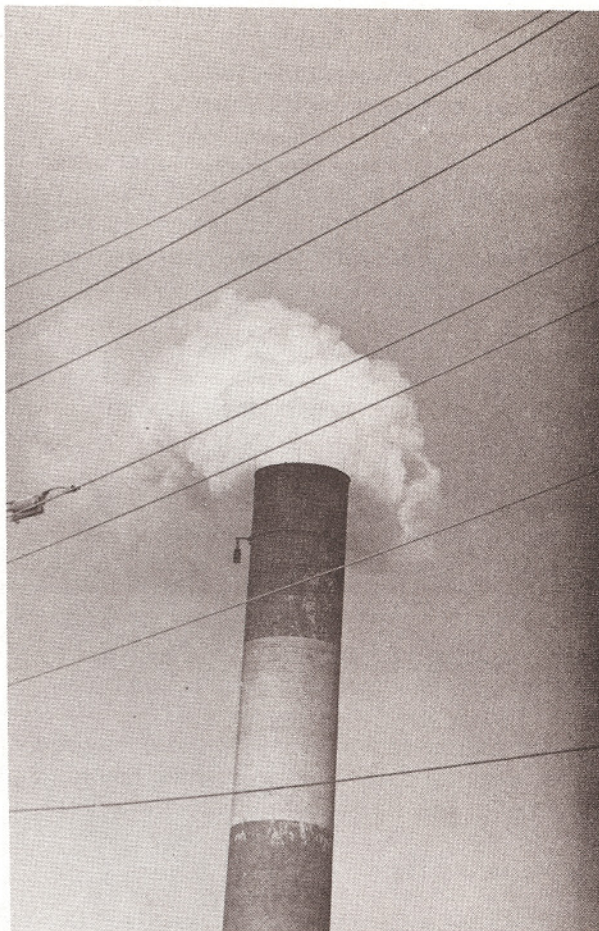
Slowly over the last ten years, almost entirely through the efforts of workers themselves, long term and sometimes deadly on the job health hazards are being exposed and the battle lines set as workers demand elimination of these hazards and compensation for disabled workers. Unlike serious immediate physical injuries, these hazards slowly but surely disable a worker over a long period of time taking years of his or her life. Company managements, often aware of the long term effects of the working conditions they maintain, are notoriously unwilling to admit they are responsible for the disastrous human consequences.

Benoit Blais was an asbestos worker for 26 years at various plants. He worked putting asbestos over pipes for hot and cold water and with fiber glass. Around 1968, after 20 years of this type of work he began to feel serious effects on his breathing, which got worse until 1973 when he was hospitalized and told to stop working. The diagnosis was asbestosis: lung damage caused by asbestos and fiber glass dust.

It was only in the 1960's that official recognition came of the almost inevitable physical effects of unprotected work with asbestos. The asbestos fibers, often simply called "dust," are inhaled and settle into the lungs, scarring tissue and, over a period of time, leading to serious lung damage and frequently to lung cancer. While a few major asbestos plants have been shut down, thousands of men and women in hundreds of cities continue to work with asbestos without adequate protection.

When Benoit Blais was forced into retirement in 1973, he was not informed that he was eligible for workman's compensation. He received no assistance from the company he had been working for, although the conditions they maintained for work with asbestos were in violation of the law. The breathing machine he had been using while he was working was rented by the union, and this was no longer available to him when he retired.

In 1975 Blais was advised by a fellow worker to apply for compensation. Sometime after filing,



Asbestos, used in smoke stacks as well as hot and cold water pipes, can cause serious lung damage and, frequently, lung cancer.

he was informed that he had been turned down. The arbitrator had ruled against him because of a 1973 regulation requiring that an applicant file within one year after he leaves a job, even though recently passed legislation grants a three year period after leaving the job in which application must be made.

Meanwhile, through his attorney, Blais was offered a \$2,000 dollar settlement by the company, one thousand of which would go to legal fees and medical expenses. Blais turned down the offer and is appealing the arbitrator's decision on his compensation claim.

Symptoms of asbestosis — the disease caused by asbestos fibers — are a bad cough, severe shortness of breath and some pains in the chest. Disposable paper masks or gauze masks, as were finally given to Blais by the company he last worked for, are totally inadequate protection. Medical experts advise asbestos workers to get extensive breathing tests, blood tests and a chest x ray done regularly. "That dust will eat you up." □

TENANTS' RIGHTS

CHA Shirks Responsibilities

This month the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) is phasing out its current subsidized leasing program under Section 23 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937. Many of these subsidized leases will now be processed under Section 8 of the 1974 Housing and Community Development Act. On the surface, the Section 8 program seems to be better. Under Section 8, according to the law, a tenant who qualifies under the federal guidelines would not have to pay more than 25% of his/her monthly income for rent, leases would be granted on a yearly basis rather than being renewed on a month to month basis as under Section 23, and landlords would be able to receive more money, up to \$315 for a four bedroom apartment.

Observers of the actual practice of this program, however, raise serious questions as to whether or not CHA is actually concerned about maintaining low-income large family housing as seems to have been the original intent of the law. First of all, under Section 23 CHA was subsidizing rents for over 2,000 units of housing, while under Section 8 funds have been allocated

for only 571 units of which 343 are for families, meaning that many people will lose their leases altogether.

A closer look at other recent cases seems to indicate other problems. A building at 4445-57 N. Magnolia consists of 25 units of large family low-income housing. Out of 25 units eight of them are rented to people with CHA leases. The landlord, Mr. Philip Rotheimer, was receiving \$220 a month for apartments not rented under the CHA leases, but only \$175 a month for those apartments rented to CHA. Stating that he could no longer operate these apartments at that price, Mr. Rotheimer requested from CHA a rent increase for those apartments leased to CHA. He was told by CHA that this would be possible under the new Section 8 program, but only after his building passed an inspection by CHA personnel. The CHA inspectors rejected the building, which, in fact, jeopardized the homes of all the people in the building who had CHA leases.

Members of the Uptown Tenants Survival Union who live in the building immediately called CHA and forced them to do another inspection. In the meantime, an emergency tenants meeting was called by the tenants to see if this problem could be solved. After a list of necessary repairs were made the landlord was contacted, and he agreed to do all of the necessary work. These were all completed in two days, and the building was then passed by CHA. As one tenant union member put it, "If it hadn't been for some



Members of the Uptown Tenants Survival Union who live at 4445-57 N. Magnolia took fast action to save the eight CHA leases in their building.

fast action by the tenants we would have lost eight homes. How serious can CHA be about providing low-income housing if they are willing to drive eight of us out of our homes for violations which can be corrected in two days, especially in a situation where the landlord is willing to cooperate and will make the necessary repairs."

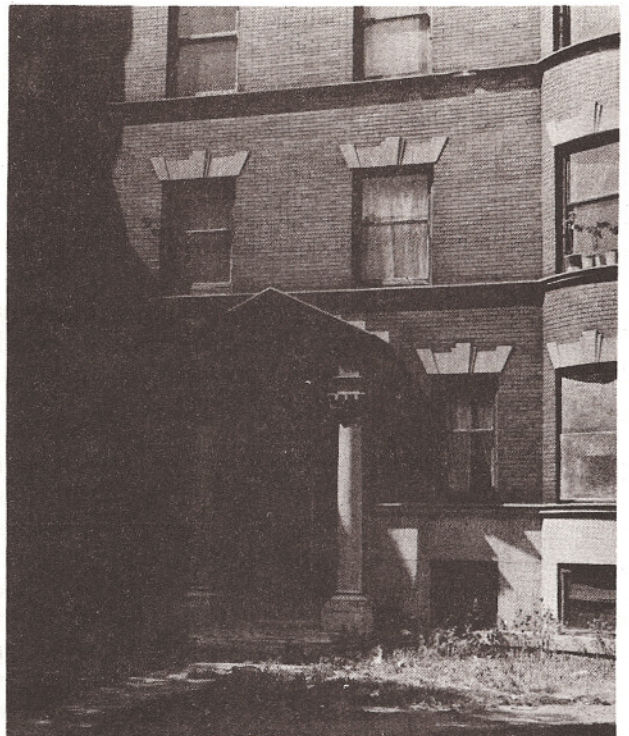
In other situations encountered by tenants even more problems with this Section 8 program become apparent. In the building at 4416-22 N. Magnolia, tenants have recently been informed that their leases will not be renewed. The reason given was that the landlord has not agreed to sign leases with CHA under the Section 8 program. When CHA was questioned about this, it was learned that it was up to the tenants to get the landlord to agree to participate in the program, and CHA would take no other responsibility than inspecting the building. As has been stated by some of the tenants, "With the serious problem which exists in the city of Chicago with shortages of low-income housing, for CHA not to take any responsibility for locating landlords to participate in a program which is obviously to their advantage, amounts to nothing more than a shirking of responsibility. It once again calls into question the true intention of CHA, as to how serious they are about dealing with the housing problem primarily affecting poor people in the city."□

A Contract Sale, A Lot Of Promises, Deterioration...

In January of this year, Mr. and Mrs. Ratcher bought on contract the building at 4071 N. Kenmore. A contract sale is when a person buys the title to a building by making a small down payment and then makes monthly payments until the cost of the building is paid off. In this case the building was bought with a down payment of \$3,000, with monthly payments of \$296.

After about three months it became apparent that the Ratchers' plan was to "milk" this building for all they could, eventually defaulting on their payments and losing the building, but not before they had collected six to eight months of rent money amounting to about \$8,000.

In the eight month period since Ratcher



4071 N. Kenmore: "We have seen similar situations go on in Uptown for years — a contract sale, a lot of promises, deterioration, more promises, arson, demolition."

purchased the building it has deteriorated rapidly. The boiler is broken down leaving the tenants with no hot water and the option of either moving or facing an impossible situation once winter comes. The back porches are close to caving in, and no action has been taken to correct this serious safety hazard. Many windows are broken, plaster is falling down in the apartments, the utility bills have not been paid, and the tenants were faced with a water shut-off on September 7 with other utilities to be shut off shortly. In other words, the building is close to being destroyed completely, leaving six large families with the prospect of being without homes.

In July of this year the tenants, four of whom were members of the Uptown Tenants Survival Union, many of whom have lived in the building for many years, decided that some action needed to be taken. Unable to get any action from Ratcher, the original owner Mr. Mizote was contacted. He said he was very willing to help out and would try to begin repairs, the only problem being that the contract he had made with Ratcher prohibited him from having anything to do with the building at all. It was also learned that Mr. Mizote had started foreclosure proceedings to try and get the contract voided, but this process would probably not be completed until at least the middle of October.

The tenants decided that as of August they would withhold their rent and see if some of the repairs could be made on their own. Escrow accounts were opened, and the tenants began withholding rent, intending to begin repairs. When repairmen were called in to do estimates, (initially the boiler and the rear stairs), it was learned that even the most minimal repairs would take about \$7,000, an amount that would take seven to eight months to raise out of the rent money.

As a spokesman for the Uptown Tenants Survival Union put it, "The tenants of this building are in a real dilemma, a kind of limbo. The contract buyer has obviously walked away from the building, and the owner is prohibited by law from taking any action. The tenants have the will but lack the necessary resources to correct the situation, and everybody knows they will get no help from the courts or anyone else for that matter. We have seen similar situations go on in Uptown for years, a contract sale, a lot of promises, deterioration, more promises, arson, demolition—building after building all over our community. It's killing us!" □

**WE WANT DECENT HOUSING, FIT
FOR THE SHELTER OF HUMAN
BEINGS.**

We believe that if the landlords will not give decent housing to our Black and oppressed communities, then the housing and the land should be made into cooperatives so that the people in our communities, with government aid, can build and make decent housing for the people. — Point #4, Black Panther Party Program, March 29, 1972 Platform

ARSON WATCH

Community Center Bombed

In the midst of broad media coverage last month, the flames of arson throughout this city's oppressed communities continued to be fanned.

As hundreds of angry residents demanded to meet with Mayor Daley, his deputy, Kenneth Sain, announced a 24-hour hotline and promised that all fires would be immediately investigated by the police department's bomb and arson squad. But when the Tranquility Community Center was destroyed by a fire that began with a bang there was no investigation whatsoever.

Located at 1529 N. Larrabee until recently, Tranquility has served as a virtual haven for the area's Black and poor community, sponsoring a variety of survival programs to serve the needs of local residents. Among these programs are:

- The Chicago Housing Tenants Organization—a city-wide housing organization that works with tenants in both public and private housing, making people aware of certain kinds of housing problems.

- Senior Citizens—Tranquility Center sponsors, in conjunction with its youth component, an escort service for senior citizens, in addition to having helped to organize a health clinic which the seniors run themselves.

- Youth—The Center maintains a 24-hour hotline to handle youth problems as well as sponsoring after-school components and discussion groups. In addition, the Center was in the process of establishing a progressive community school.



The Mayor's bomb and arson squad did no investigation of the bombing of the Tranquility Community Center. Why?

●Food Co-op—provides low-cost, high quality food for the community.

Marion Stamps, the Center's program coordinator charged that, "Because of the different positions we have taken, not only in the community, but throughout the city, we pose a threat to the powers that be. We have intensified our efforts to educate and organize the people around, for instance, the Chicago 21 Plan, which is a plan that definitely concerns the removal of Black and other poor people out of the inner city. We talk about the fact that tenants have a right to determine their own lives in public housing. We've come out on the issue of police brutality. It's just our total involvement."

Concerning the explosion and fire, several neighborhood residents reported seeing an unknown and suspicious looking man around the front and back doors of the Center around 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. the evening of the fire. One half-hour before the blast which shook buildings several doors away, this same person was parked across the street from the Center, in a late model Chevy Nova or Camaro. Despite detailed eyewitness accounts, the Chicago fire and police departments seem ready to write the incident off as "accidental." They claim that either the clothes in the back of the Center ignited or that a gas stove leak was the cause.

Yet, the physical evidence contradicts both these theories. Neither the clothes in the back nor the wood in that area were totally burned, as they would have been if the fire began there. While the stove is scorched on top, it is still upright and connected to the wall, an unlikely occurrence in an explosion. Plus, objects on both sides of the stove are still in place, as was the typewriter placed inside the stove for safe keeping.

In addition, the explosion and fire only destroyed Tranquility Center. The blast went straight out, front to back, with no damage to the apartments on either side or above the Center. Community residents, in fact, overheard two telephone repairmen state that it looked like "a professional torch job."

Within two days after the explosion, the Center had found a temporary office two doors away and had served 600 free lunches to local children. On August 21, the Tranquility Center, which now has established a permanent office at 539 W. North Ave., celebrated Survival Day to the enjoyment of over 500 residents who participated in the day's festivities. □

LEGAL RIGHTS

The Big Sweep, Or The Big Lie?

"We are not concerned with civil liberties. We have had our hands tied long enough. Don't complain if we stop you in the middle of the night for nothing. If we check you it means we'll be checking *everyone*."

While the newspapers and T.V. news programs were filled with coverage of the "big sweep" against prostitution carried out by the police over the last few weeks, an in-depth survey of community residents and organizations raises the possibility that the "big sweep" is really "a big lie." Court statistics show that less than 10% of the recent big sweep arrests actually led to convictions. Residents point out that prostitution has not decreased during the big sweep any more than heroin sales decreased during last year's big sweep aimed at cleaning up the pushers. The Sweep has been successful, according to these same residents, in terrorizing the people who live in the area and creating the very real semblance of a police state. All agree that crime on the street is a serious problem, but few believe that police actions have or can do anything about it.

There is a small minority of community residents, mobilized by professional organizers



Police Comdr. Hanley and Ald. Cohen gather at St. Mary's Church: "We are not concerned with civil liberties. We have had our hands tied long enough."

hired by big institutions in the community, who consistently support these sweeps. Characteristically, at a recent police-community relations meeting held at St. Mary's Church on N. Sheridan and Buena St., nearly 250 police and politicians and a few community residents gathered to hear the police side of the story. Congratulating those present and patting each other on the back, police and politicians alike decried concern for civil liberties and gave warning to the community; "We are not concerned with civil liberties. We have had our hands tied long enough."

If the sweeps are not effective, why do they continue? Is it because they create positive publicity for the police? Is it because they "untie" the hands of the police from civil rights restrictions? Is it, as some say, because land and real estate profits, not stopping crime, are the motivating goals of the program?

UPTOWN — A CASE HISTORY

1974-1975. Bill Thompson took over management of the Montrose Beach Apartments, 925 W. Montrose. The hotel had housed up 'til then primarily single senior citizens and small families. Addicts began to move in. Shortly after, St. Mary's Church community workers initiated a movement to close down a primarily Black-patronized nightclub. The club served no alcohol but provided weekend entertainment and dancing. As the anti-crime movement gained ground, the Montrose hotel was emptied and burned out. It was torn down along with all the buildings still standing on the 900 block of Montrose except for the Montrose Urban Progress Center.

1974-1975. City Centrum, owned by Bill Thompson, took over management of the CHA buildings at 4215-45 N. Broadway and 869 W. Buena. Gradually there was an increase in prostitution on that block. A meeting was organized by the precinct captain; Helen Affable, local Model Cities representative; the owner of the Diamond Liquor Store and St. Mary's Church to "fight crime in Broadway and Buena." None of the families living in the buildings in the block were talked to about the meeting which was not held in nearby St. Mary's Church, but at least ten blocks away at 912 W. Sheridan. At the same time a similar meeting concerning the Wilton and Grace community (one block from 912 W. Sheridan) was held at St. Mary's Church.

In response to this meeting police harassment of community residents—most of whom are Black—greatly increased. A local bar became the center of police attention. Customers were



The courtway buildings on Broadway: Bill Thompson [inset]—the man behind the big sweep?

consistently searched and treated with disrespect, until it was finally closed down by the building's owner (Thompson) and the city.

Four year old demands by parents for a playground near the northeast corner of Broadway and Buena to avoid accidents caused by children running across Broadway to get to other recreational facilities were ignored by the city and their Alderman Chris Cohen. Meanwhile, a vacant lot on the west side of Broadway was rezoned for a park. During the following year this park was built and ironically is the source of several lawsuits resulting from unsafe equipment.

As both prostitution and police harassment continued to increase the anger and frustration of all the residents, Thompson bought the courtway buildings he had been managing and evicted all the tenants.

1975-1976. Sudden increase in prostitution on Sheridan, north of Irving Park Rd. The Sheridan "L" and further south of Irving Park Rd. had already been an alleged center of prostitution and drugs and the subject of law and order meetings in that neighborhood, but the movement north of Irving Park was sudden and dramatic. Many residents became concerned for their children, and families began to move out. Thompson bought several buildings on Sheridan, north of Irving and began "improvements" on the outside for show — iron gates, lights, etc. St. Mary's and Flo Fisk (assistant to Ald. Cohen) organized the meeting already mentioned to rid the area of crime, claiming in their leaflets "City Hall has made a commitment to our community. How about you?" □

POLICE WATCH

Police Charged With Perjury, Obstructing Justice

"I've spent more than four years of my life in jail for things I didn't do, and I'm only 23. I'm sick about it. . . Why should I have any faith [in law enforcement and the courts]? They've put me in jail, in places that aren't fit for anyone. That ain't justice." James Dixon

After 362 days in Cook County Jail and a wrongful conviction, an anonymous phone tip freed James Dixon, jailed August 2, 1975 on charges of aggravated battery and attempted murder of a police officer.

On that day in August last year, police Sgt. Richard Scanlon claimed that Dixon was facing him as he tried to break up a fight between Dixon and Wilton Moore, 52, when he was shot in the stomach. Two eyewitnesses (Wilton Moore and a neighbor, James Pharr who viewed the incident through his front window) told police investigators that Dixon was behind Scanlon who was facing Moore and shoving him with both hands when there was a shot and Scanlon stumbled.

Scanlon apparently shot himself with an illegal "pen gun" he carried in his shirt pocket, which accidentally discharged. The gun has disappeared,

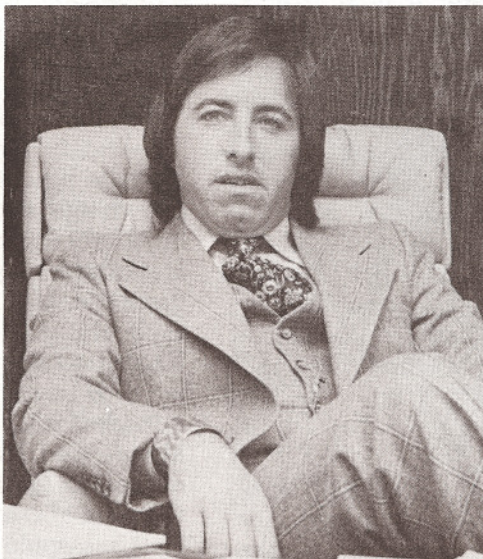
and the question has been raised; "Who helped him dispose of it?" It is hard to imagine that the cover-up of the true events of this case could be the work of just one man, Dixon's attorney pointed out.

There were several other police at the scene of the shooting. Also, a crucial page of James Pharr's statement given to police the day Scanlon was shot is missing from police files. The first page of this statement ends in mid-sentence just as Pharr began to relate what he saw at the time of the shooting.

Charges against Dixon were dropped August 20, 1976, and a Cook County grand jury has been investigating the shooting and whether police withheld information to frame Dixon. Morgan Park District officer Frances Zoller, one of the two arresting officers who witnessed the shooting, has been granted immunity by the grand jury, however, he can still be prosecuted for perjury. Scanlon has been suspended by the police department, and dismissal charges are to be brought before the police board.

Michael Jay Green, Dixon's attorney, has filed a \$1 million suit in federal court charging that police violated Dixon's civil rights by conspiring to jail him unjustly. Defendants named are Scanlon, Police Superintendent James Rochford, Assistant Deputy Supt. William Keating, city-wide homicide Cmdr. Joseph DiLeonardi, Chicago Police Department Investigators Patrick O'Hara and John Yucaitis, police officers F. Zoller and D. Miller and police Sgt. Ed Nelson.

The suit charges that "Scanlon, with full knowledge of the fact that he shot himself,



James Dixon [left]
and renowned
criminal attorney
Michael Jay Green [right]

Sgt. Scanlon
who received
award—later it
turned out he
shot himself.



conspired with other defendants and pursued a course of conduct designed to cause the wrongful arrest, continued incarceration and conviction" of Dixon, that Scanlon "offered perjured testimony ... withheld evidence ... and obstructed justice."

The federal suit has been assigned to federal judge Julius Hoffman, renowned for his vicious, senile and biased treatment of both defendants and attorneys in the highly publicized post 1968 Democratic Convention trial of the Chicago 8.

In 1971, in another case, Dixon was convicted of murder and sentenced to 25 to 60 years in prison. He spent over three years in jail before his conviction was overturned by the Illinois Appellate Court. The court ruled that the police had disobeyed a court order by not revealing to defense lawyers that they had found another witness whose story totally contradicted the prosecution's key witness, Mitchell Thompson.

Mitchell Thompson, then 15, testified he saw a man running in the dark with a shotgun shortly after hearing a blast. At the trial he identified Dixon as this man. In spite of the fact that five other witnesses testified that Dixon was at a marriage reception, he was convicted. After the court overruled Dixon's conviction, Thompson recanted his testimony. Saying he didn't really recognize the person who ran with the shotgun, he said the police had "repeatedly suggested" to him that it was Dixon, and had suggested a story to him. It was this story that he gave in court.

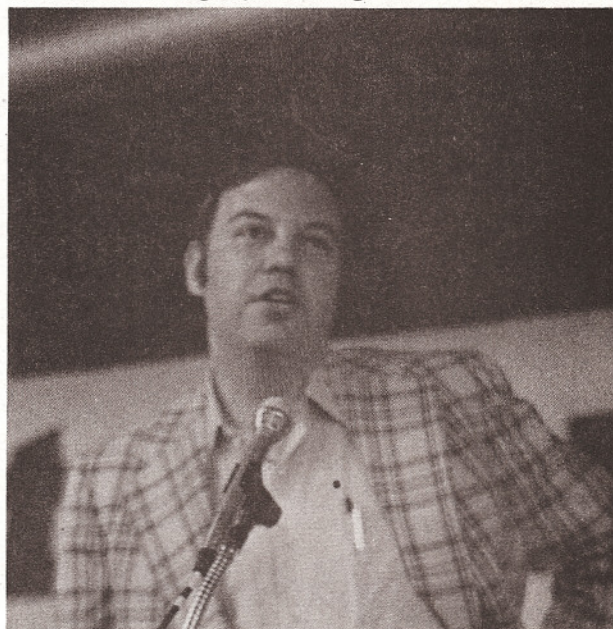
John Yucatis, one of the defendants in Dixon's million dollar suit against the police, helped investigate both the 1971 murder and the Scanlon shooting for which Dixon was jailed. □

FIGHTING CITY HALL

Tenants Rights An Issue In City Council

Progressive 44th ward alderman Dick Simpson has recently introduced several housing-related proposals before the city council. Two of these, directly related to landlord-tenant relations and providing badly needed protection for the tenant, are currently before the City Council Committee on Building and Zoning. Although they have been in committee since early summer, they are expected to finally come up for a vote by the committee sometime this month.

The "Lockout Evictions" ordinance prohibits a landlord from "locking out" a tenant without due process of law. It is common for a landlord to decide on his own without having gone through any legal process to evict a tenant, to put a new lock on that tenant's apartment and then prevent the tenant from taking possession of his or her own belongings. Although this has been against the law for some time, it is a civil law and does not provide for tenants to take any immediate action against the landlord for what in fact amounts to stealing. Simpson's ordinance would make this a criminal offense. Any person who insisted on illegally evicting his or her tenant in



Alderman Simpson—an ordinance to stop lockouts.

this manner would be found guilty of a misdemeanor and would be fined not less than \$25 and not more than \$300. Each day that a landlord persisted in an illegal lockout would constitute another charge, and he would face the same fine again and again until he turned the apartment back to the tenant.

The second proposal which is referred to as "Confession of Judgment" prevents a landlord from hiring an attorney to plead the tenant guilty without notice to the tenant or the opportunity for the tenant to appear in court. The ordinance would make a court procedure, where the tenant wasn't given proper notification causing the tenant to suffer loss of his apartment or worse, to be null and void. □

Mayor Daley: "I Have No Recollection"

Is the old man getting senile or is the man who rules Chicago with an iron fist not all he's cut out to be? Does he really *not* know what is going on inside his Chicago Police Department? Last May, Mayor Richard J. Daley answered questions asked by the attorneys for the Alliance To End Repression as part of their well-publicized red squad lawsuit aimed to stop illegal police spying. Following are excerpts from this testimony which was recently made public.

Q: Do you have the authority to select the superintendant of police?

A: Yes.

Q: Did you select Superintendent Conlisk?

A: Yes.

Q: Did you select Superintendent Rochford?

A: Yes. . .

Q: Do you have knowledge that within the Chicago Police Department there is a division called the Intelligence Division?

A: Yes. I think all police departments have that in the country.

Q: Do you also have knowledge that within the Intelligence Department at one time there was a unit called the Subversive Activities Section?

A: General knowledge, but no specific knowledge.

Q: And later on, approximately April 1, 1973, the name of the Subversive Activities Section was changed to the Security Operations Section?

A: I have no recollection.

Q: And that presently the duties of the former Subversive Activities Section is under what is called the Security Section?

A: I have no recollection.

Q: Do you have any recollection that within the Intelligence Department there is a unit which is euphemistically called the Red Squad?

A: No.

Q: The answer is no?

A: No.

IN MEMORIAM JAMES PLUMMER



September 26, 1956-August 9, 1976

James Plummer will be remembered by his family as someone who was loved, was a part of them and their struggle for survival and some joy in this life. James Plummer will be remembered by his friends as a person who was a good friend, a dependable ally, a necessary person, a solid brother. James Plummer will be remembered by our community as one of the soldiers we desperately need to bring this oppression from off our necks. In history, James Plummer will be remembered as one more of many whose lives have been cut short by the jungle that those who are rich and powerful have turned the cities where we live into, as one more very good reason why we can not allow ourselves to forget that there must, should and will be a change by any means necessary.

Black Lung Movement Grows: Representatives of Chicago Area Black Lung Association Participate in West Virginia Conference

"We are not exactly yet a free people. If we expect somebody else over there to free us without a struggle, we become *that* person's slave. But if we free *ourselves*, we will be our own masters and a free people."

These words, spoken by Bill Worthington, regional chairman for the nationally growing "Black Lung" movement, summed up the spirit of the regional conference of black lung associations. The well-attended and well-organized meeting was held August 14, 1976 in Marmet, West Virginia and was run by the disabled miners and widows themselves. The skilled handling of the complicated issues involved proved that the long struggle for justice in the

coal fields has taught the people there to recognize the issues, the "divide and conquer" tactics of the enemy, and how to overcome these problems.

The Chicago Area Black Lung Association (CABLA) sent a delegation headed by Lawrence Zornes. CABLA participated and above all learned from its brother and sister associations which have led the struggle against black lung disease (pneumoconiosis) over the last decade. Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia, Ohio and New York all were represented. Some of the groups at the conference besides the black lung associations were the Miners' Wives and Widows (headed by Anise Floyd, they



Lawrence Zornes, chairman of CABLA; at left with Bill Worthington, regional chairman of the black lung associations and at right with Donald Bryant, chairman of West Virginia Black Lung Association at conference in Marmet, W. Va.

have played a key role in the struggle), the Upper Kanawha Valley (W. Va.) Health Association, the Floyd County (Kentucky) Citizens' Association and the Council of the Southern Mountains.

The United Mine Workers of America was represented by Dale Lawson, chief black lung lobbyist in Washington, and several local officials who also are in various black lung associations.

The main business of the conference was: 1) to establish better communications between the black lung associations; 2) to present and discuss resolutions on all issues affecting retired and disabled miners. These resolutions will be presented at the upcoming convention of the United Mine Workers of America; 3) to present a report on the current status of the new black lung benefits bill which has been passed by the House of Representatives and is pending in the Senate.

The main issue that the resolutions centered on was the problem of discrimination against older miners and their widows. Miners who retired before 1974 get about half the pension that the younger miners who retire after 1974 get. This is because of an agreement made in the 1974 UMW contract. The overwhelming sentiment of the meeting was that the older miners who suffered so much from black lung, wretched conditions and pay, and who fought so hard to

win the right to have a union should get the same pension as the younger miners; if necessary, it would be better for all to get less than \$500 per month than for some to get \$500 and some \$250.

The well thought-out presentations of Donald Bryant, chairman of the West Virginia Black Lung Association, black lung counselor Willie Anderson and regional chairman Bill Worthington exposed how the coal operators and politicians had schemed to divide the miners and the union along the lines of old and young miners in order to weaken the peoples' struggle.

When the new amendments to the black lung benefits law were passed in 1972, the program was transferred from the Social Security Administration to the Department of Labor. The new and viciously unfair medical standards made it harder than ever to get black lung benefits. Furthermore, a 1971 cut-off date was set meaning that no work in the mines after 1971 could count toward black lung benefits because of supposed dust control in the mines which has proven to be a farce.

It was for this reason that the younger coal miners, figuring they would never get black lung benefits, accepted the idea of paying higher dues and granting higher pensions to miners retiring after 1974. At the conference, the black lung associations resolved to fight hard for an end to the 1971 cut-off and to the unfair new medical



"It's the same bunch of creeps who administer the Department of Labor programs and the old Social Security Administration program. We have to sweep them all out."



"We made you rich, and now that we are sick and widowed because of conditions we worked under, you want to throw us away like garbage. But we shall survive and defend the right of future generations to a better life."

standards while also urging the union to adopt equal pensions for all, thus fighting for the rights of young and old.

One speaker pointed out the extreme cruelty of the Department of Labor standards which allowed only 200 people to be awarded benefits in three years. He pointed out, "It's the same bunch of creeps who administer the Department of Labor programs and the old Social Security Administration program. We have to sweep them all out."

Many other important resolutions were passed concerning the rights of coal miners and their widows to control the uses of the pension and miners' welfare money, to control the clinics that have been set up and assure quality health care, to direct the dust control programs that now result only in more black lung and for the training of coal miners as emergency medics inside the mines. Finally, it was resolved that disabled coal miners must be given the right to have a vote in the union on issues affecting them.

The report on the black lung bill emphasized how Senator Javits (R-New York) is using every dirty trick in the book to remove from the bill all the improvements that would correct the injustice against untold black lung victims and their widows suffering and dying without ever collecting a penny. Not only the coal operators, but big business in general through the National

Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce is pouring money into defeating the bill. As Dale Lawson, UMWA lobbyist pointed out, the big corporations see it as an *extremely dangerous* bill because it says to the wealthy employer: "If you cause damage to a person's health, *you* must pay." With millions of people suffering from job-related diseases, all big businessmen are terrified of having to sacrifice some of their profits to help these victims.

Lined up against the coal operators and other big corporations as well as the Department of Labor and the Social Security Administration, openly working with business to defeat the bill, are the courageous and dignified members of the black lung associations and widows' organizations. Without money, they put in hours of unpaid struggle while themselves suffering from the terrible effects of black lung disease and the grief of dead loved ones, dead from black lung and mine disasters. Their voices ring loud and clear: "We made you rich, and now that we are sick and widowed because of the conditions we worked under, you want to throw us away like garbage. But we shall survive and defend the right of future generations to a better life."

The delegation from the Chicago Area Black Lung Association learned a great deal and came back more determined than ever to fight for the 1,000 or more black lung victims living in the Chicago area. □

Uptown Children Confront State of Illinois -

«We Want Our Lunches Back»

During the summer the Intercommunal Survival Committee operated a Free Lunch for Children Program at three sites in the Uptown community. The program which was run by the mothers and families of the children who used the program fed nutritious meals each weekday to 750 - 1000 children. As the program reached its last two weeks of funding, the state and federal governments decided that the program did not meet their guidelines, so they stopped the food.

Over 300 children and their parents immediately responded. As negotiations between the ISC and a representative of the State Department of Education and Food, Ms. Abbot, took place at 7435 N. Western Ave., they picketed, marched and chanted for their lunches. By the end of the afternoon, the lunches were reinstated, and the food came once again to the children of Uptown. Following are excerpts from the statement read by Jack Hart, program director for the ISC, at the children's demonstration for their survival.

"The state officials say that the federal officials say that our program does not meet the guidelines. They cite four points that we are going to discuss with them, but the bureaucracy has leaked the real reason to us. The funding for the program comes from the Department of Agriculture, which also provides funding for the food stamps that have recently become so much more expensive. On Monday of this week, Earl Butz, fresh from the republican convention, spent the day in Chicago going over the lunch programs run here. Ours was one of the largest in the city. Butz objects to large, free lunch programs, not part of some small summer school program, as creating a 'welfare mentality.' So the state officials, perhaps under pressure from the federal officials, cancelled the program on paper last Friday, even though they only cancelled the program actually on Tuesday. In this way, they

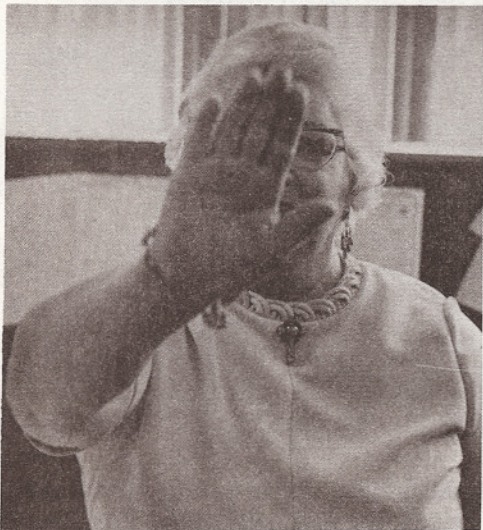
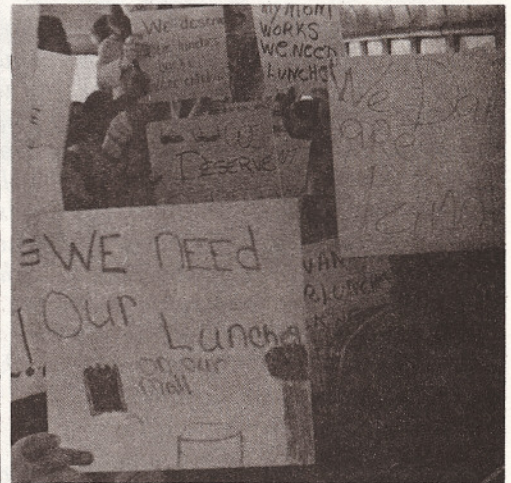
avoided the wrath of Mr. Butz, but they have not avoided the wrath of the community, whose children are hungry.

"It may be that our rather large, solely volunteer, community lunch program is unorthodox, but then that is because there should be more like it. The locations for our programs are designated 'high crime areas.' The police consider these areas 'filled with scum' and patrol like we were a village in Vietnam. Urban renewal has pushed Blacks and Latinos into the primarily southern white area and created serious racial tensions in the overcrowded neighborhood which has resulted in gang wars. Speculators and arsonists and absentee landlords wage war daily.

"The ISC, which operates a wide range of survival programs such as our food co-op, legal and welfare defense counseling, tenants' rights counseling, and reading tutorial programs, applied for CETA positions to give the youth of our community some jobs and to create crucial recreational improvement programs over the summer. We were turned down, and the CETA slots were given to a city employee who gave them to youth from outside the neighborhood to play volleyball three hours a week.

"The ISC is an all-volunteer organization. The lunch program is run by the mothers and families of the children who use the program. None of the great liberal agencies in the area would even donate tables and chairs. Our community got no help from anybody, although we got lots of attention from brutal police, city planners, speculators and arsonists.

"Nevertheless, the neighborhood is pulling together. A strong tenants union is developing. The youth themselves have unified and stopped most of the gang fighting. We are working together for our common survival, and the lunch



Clockwise, starting top left: Jack Hart, program director for the ISC; "We went down there and voted"; "We want our lunches back"; "Don't mess with the kids"; Mrs. Abbot, from the state: "I'm cutting off the lunch program"; "We got it back!"

program was an important factor in bringing people out on the street to work together — white, Latino and Black, young and old, gang members and welfare mothers. So, naturally they stopped the program because it is creating a 'welfare mentality.'

"If you want to cut the welfare rolls down, then build factories where you are building half-occupied, upper-income highrises, and give us jobs. But don't take food out of our babies' mouths because some of your bureaucrats have never been hungry." □

The Chicago 21 Plan—

“Their Vision of the Twenty-first Century Doesn’t Include Us”

As questions were raised and movement began brewing last month in opposition to the Chicago 21 Plan, and especially to the new “city within the city” to be constructed in the South Loop area, a significant concern was shown throughout the entire city where community representatives stated that this “master plan” would have direct effects on their neighborhoods, schools and opportunities for employment. In the following interview, KEEP STRONG spoke with ISC coordinator, Slim Coleman, one of the participants in the opposition to the plan.

KEEP STRONG: What exactly are the “Chicago 21 Plan” and the “South Loop New Town”?

SLIM COLEMAN: The Chicago 21 Plan is just that — a *plan*, developed by city planners and some of the largest financial interests in the city, for what the central city should look like in the twenty-first century. The central city and the communities contained in it have been mapped out for change. New housing, entertainment and business districts along with ultra-modern transportation systems have all been planned out on paper. Then, although no one in Chicago’s communities have voted on this plan for the future of “their city,” or have even really been informed of what is in store for them, the plan has begun to be implemented. The plan is going to become a reality through the cooperation of the banks, the big insurance companies, the big developers like Chaddick and Rubloff and Daley’s city officials, and it will use plenty of city, state and federal money.

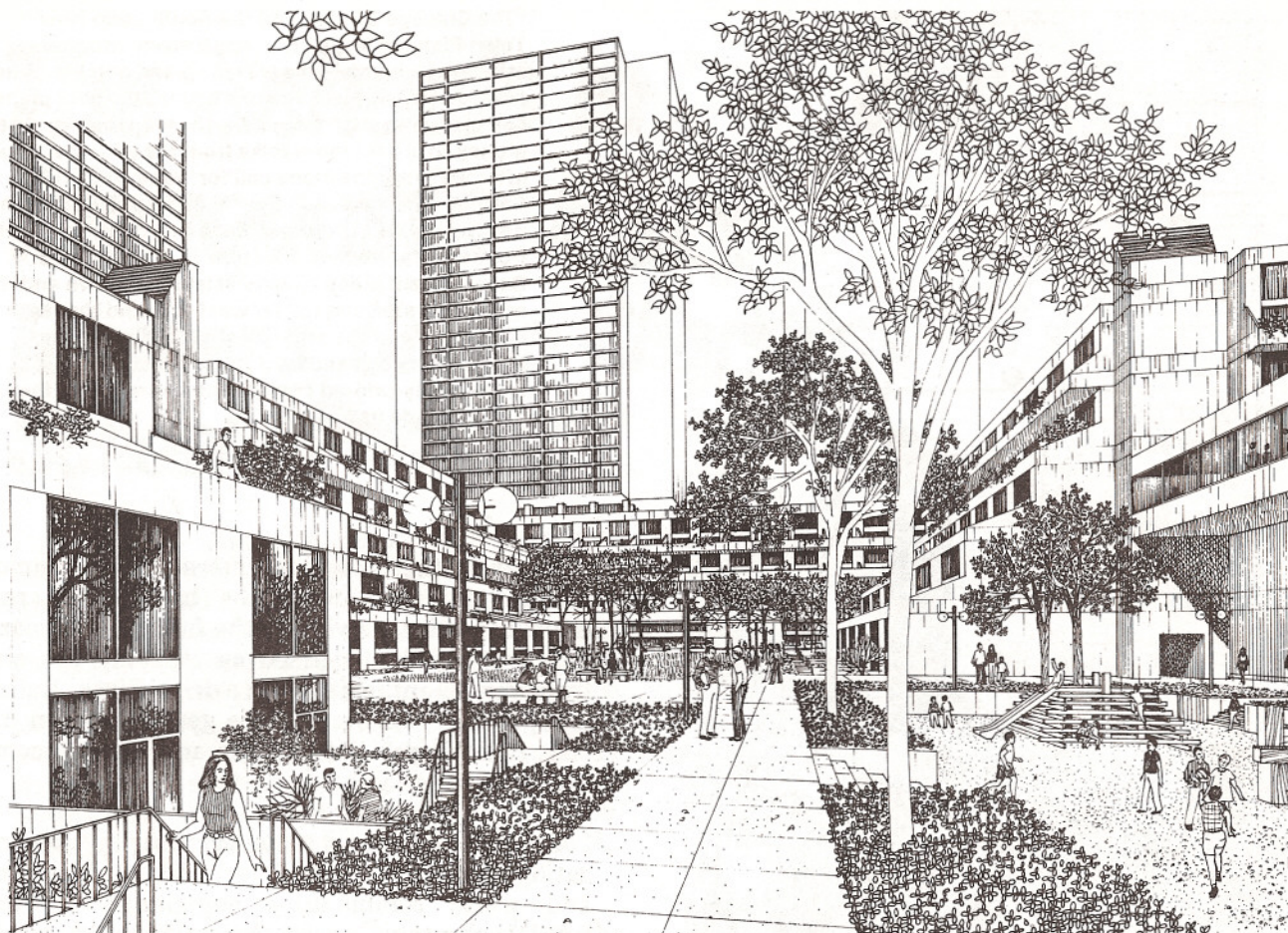
The South Loop New Town is one of the first major aspects to the plan, although a lot of actions have already been taken in other communities to prepare the way for the plan’s implementation. This first project would basically take an area in the south part of the Loop and



Slim Coleman, one of the participants in the opposition to the plan.

build a multimillion dollar residential development with schools and parks and facilities for shopping and entertainment. The housing units built will be sold as condominiums, that is, to live there for the most part you will have to buy your apartment for a cost of thousands of dollars. So it is a middle and upper-income development to bring back into the city people who live in the suburbs.

What we are asking is why spend millions of dollars of our tax money on such a development



The South Loop New Town is one of the first major aspects to the Chicago 21 Plan: a middle and upper-income development to bring back into the city people who live in the suburbs.

in the Loop when so much is needed in our neighborhoods? Why not spend the money on rehabilitating housing with decent conditions at rents poor and working people can afford? Why not spend the money on the schools where our children are imprisoned nine months a year and don't even learn to read? Why not spend the money to develop and encourage new industry in the city where some of the hundreds of thousands of unemployed men and women can find work?

Why? Because *their* vision of Chicago in the twenty-first century does not include us.

KS: *Along these lines, what effects of the Chicago 21 Plan are there liable to be in neighborhoods like Uptown which is outside of the 21 area?*

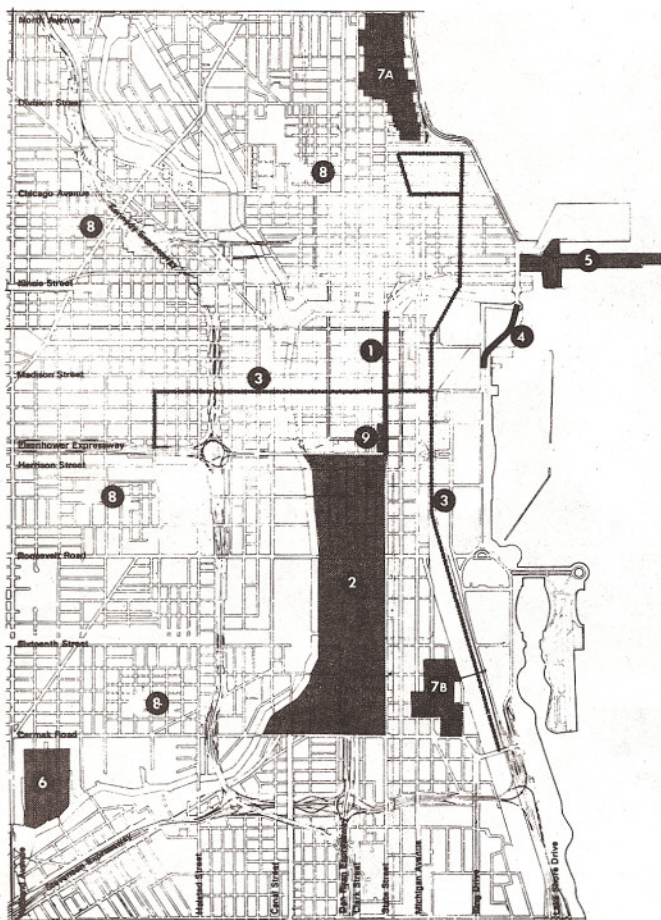
SC: "In the first place, it is a question of money. We need the money in our neighborhoods, and we won't get it if it is spent on building a "city in the city" for people now living in the suburbs.

In the second place, the Chicago 21 Plan and

the South Loop New Town plan are like a big stone thrown into the middle of a pond — the waves spread quickly. When the South Loop New Town is begun, the next plans call for "renewing" the rest of the Loop, using more money to attract more folks from the suburbs. Then, after the Loop, the plans call for "renewing" the Cabrini Green area and East Humboldt Park and West Town and the near west side. The waves keep going out in a circle from the place where the stone is first dropped. Development plans already exist for Uptown and the northwest side and the far west side and the far south side and the southwest side. You can go down to city hall and read these plans in expensively-printed copies, and you will find that they don't include us.

What I am saying is that when the first rock is thrown, in the Loop, the waves of driving Black, Latino and poor people farther out of the neighborhoods they now live in will really begin to speed up.

KS: *Do you think there is really a chance of stopping the Chicago 21 Plan?*



SC: That is like asking is there any hope of us getting decent schools and decent jobs in stable neighborhoods, or really, is there any hope that we will be "permitted" to stay in the city at all. And that is a question to which we have to answer "yes," because there is nowhere else planned for us to go, while here we as poor and working people — Black, Latino, Native American and white — represent a powerful majority. We have the power to stop and change the city plan and develop a plan that will serve our own interests, but it is unorganized.

I am very encouraged by several things. First, people who are struggling around many different survival issues — for better schools, for decent housing, for jobs, for better police, against drugs — are in many cases coming to the same conclusion: the city plan of development is working against them. The city master plan is, in fact, causing many of their problems. For example, even the racial tensions in Marquette Park, fired up by a few racist fools like the Nazis, are recognized by many as the result of the city driving Black families out of their neighborhoods, which the city allowed first to deteriorate, and overcrowding them into the Marquette Park area.

"The Chicago 21 Plan and the South Loop New Town Plan are like a big stone thrown into the middle of a pond — the waves spread quickly. When the South Loop New Town is begun, the next plans call for "renewing" the rest of the loop, using more money to attract more folks from the suburbs. Then, after the loop, the plans call for "renewing" the Cabrini Green area and East Humboldt Park and the near west side. The waves keep going out in a circle from the place where the stone is first dropped. Development plans already exist for Uptown and the northwest side and the far west side and the far south side and the southwest side. You can go down to city hall and read these plans in expensively-printed copies, and you will find they don't include us."

Because there is now more of a common understanding, there is the basis for a real city-wide unity, maybe for the first time in many years. The unity is based on stopping the city from implementing its plan to drive Black, Latino and poor and working people generally from the city, replacing us with middle and upper-income whites.

Second, there are some very strong organizations from the Black, Puerto Rican, Mexicano and white communities beginning to work functionally together on this problem. A whole range of ways to fight the city have been opened up. They can be fought in the federal courts, in the city council, in the state legislature, in the U.S. Congress, and most important, in the neighborhoods themselves. Certainly it is only a strong movement of people from the communities that will bring victory.

Finally, I believe that this issue we are beginning to fight here — beginning by fighting the Chicago 21 Plan and demanding that the money be spent on things we need in the neighborhoods instead — will quickly become a national issue. The same process of removing Black, Latino and poor people generally from the city, by denying us jobs and services and by literally tearing down our houses, is going on in almost every major city across the country. The reason is simple: the cities are faced with being occupied by majorities of poor people, the greatest number of which are people of color. They want us out because the cities are too valuable to them for us to be allowed to control them.

But when we do control the cities, there will soon be a major change coming in this country, and those in power know it. □

The Schools in Marquette Park Teachers' Group Charges School «Packing»

August saw continued Black-white tension in Marquette Park as Blacks and progressive whites marched against Nazi and KKK violence in the area, and were confronted with those same groups, bricks, bottles and clubs. Demonstrators charged that the police and courts sided against them, denying permits and stopping legal marches, while at least one off-duty police officer was caught throwing bricks along with the Nazis. Meanwhile, threats and physical attacks continued against the Black families moving into the area.

In the middle of August a group called the Substitutes for Better Schools issued a startling report. The group has been in existence several years and has consistently fought to make the teachers union more accountable to the community. Their report, entitled "Marquette Park/Englewood 'Border'" used Board of Education records and statistics and was carefully documented, although it received little attention from newspapers other than *The Chicago Defender*.

The teachers' group maintains that the Board of Education, appointed by Daley, is acting consciously to assist the real estate developers and speculators that make overnight fortunes in so-called "changing neighborhoods." According to their analysis, Blacks and Latinos are forced to seek housing in all-white, stable working class areas by conditions in "ghettoes" where the city does not provide decent services, where schools are poorly financed and, of course, where urban renewal programs and absentee landlords are rampant. When Black people and/or Latinos move in, as they are doing in Marquette Park, the neighborhood is called a "changing neighborhood."

Scheming real estate men flock to a changing neighborhood, telling the whites their property values are going down because "the niggers are



Was it the Board of Education policy to overcrowd this school?

coming," and buying the whites' houses at cheap prices. Then the real estate men sell the houses at expensive prices to Black people seeking new homes after being driven from their old ones, and they turn quick and substantial profits.

In the meantime, while a few make overnight profits, racial tension grows in the neighborhood, and, ignited by groups like the Nazis and the KKK, turns into war.

This process of making money off of "changing neighborhoods" is, according to the teachers' group, underneath the trouble in Marquette Park. The Daley administration, always hand-in-glove with big real estate and banking interests,



The whites who confronted the marchers in Marquette Park—are they and their children being manipulated “for another man’s profit and pleasure?”

helps more by withdrawing services from the area so that the neighborhood goes down more quickly, more sell out cheap, and more profits are made more quickly.

The Board of Education, which has come under attack continually over the past years for “mismanagement” and “overbureaucracy” is also one of the largest real estate holders in the city. S.U.B.S. chairman, George Schmidt, points out that the new superintendent Joseph Hannon was formerly in charge of school redistricting, a position close to the real estate interests’ heart, and his “surprise” promotion should not be viewed as a surprise at all.

The report charged that the border schools between west Englewood and Marquette Park, where the “change” is taking place, are being packed in order to speed up the turnover in the neighborhood. The “Black” schools in the area that are changing average 1,640 students per school at O’Toole, Raster and Barton, while predominately white schools one mile west in Marquette Park average 470 students per school. Teachers predict serious conflict in the already tense, overcrowded situation and the flight of white students that could easily be eliminated by redistricting to ease the load. But the Board won’t do that.

In the 1960’s the same schools that are now overcrowded were all-white schools, and they were not overcrowded. But just east, where the neighborhood was being changed, Corpernicus, Libby and Altgeld were overcrowded to the same extent that O’Toole, Barton and Raster are today. When the neighborhood in these schools had “turned over” and become a Black neighborhood, the redistricting process went into effect, and the overcrowding was shifted to the new “border” area.

“Can we honestly argue,” the report states, “as the Board of Education does, that these schools are overcrowded because of the increase of population? Or, can we not say that it was policy to allow this overcrowding for the time of the change in order to resegregate the neighborhood?”

The teachers have raised the ugly charge that Chicago’s elementary school children are being used to create situations for Chicago’s wealthy bankers and real estate giants to profit from. Trapped in this process, the white children are also being taught a race hatred and a race fear that will allow them to be used and manipulated like their fathers and mothers are being used today in Marquette Park — for another man’s profit and pleasure. □

No Justice in San Quentin 6 Verdict:

The Cover-up of the Assassination of George Jackson Continues

After 24 days of deliberations, ending just nine days short of the fifth anniversary of the August 21, 1971 incident, a jury of 11 Whites and one Black succumbed to pressures and, abandoning all principles, delivered a compromise verdict in the San Quentin 6 trial, acquitting three of the Black and Brown prison activists while convicting three others.

The harshest — and most horrendous — decision came down against Black Panther Party member Johnny Larry Spain, 27, who was convicted for the shooting deaths of two San Quentin guards and conspiracy to escape. Spain's conviction symbolized the extent of the compromise of the jury's decision, since there was no evidence presented throughout the 16-month proceedings, the longest in state history, to justify this verdict. Spain "took the weight," as they say in prison jargon, as a result of the nearly all-White, middle-class jury's distorted views about the Black Panther Party and their seeming inability to comprehend the forces at play in the assassination of BPP Field Marshal George Jackson.

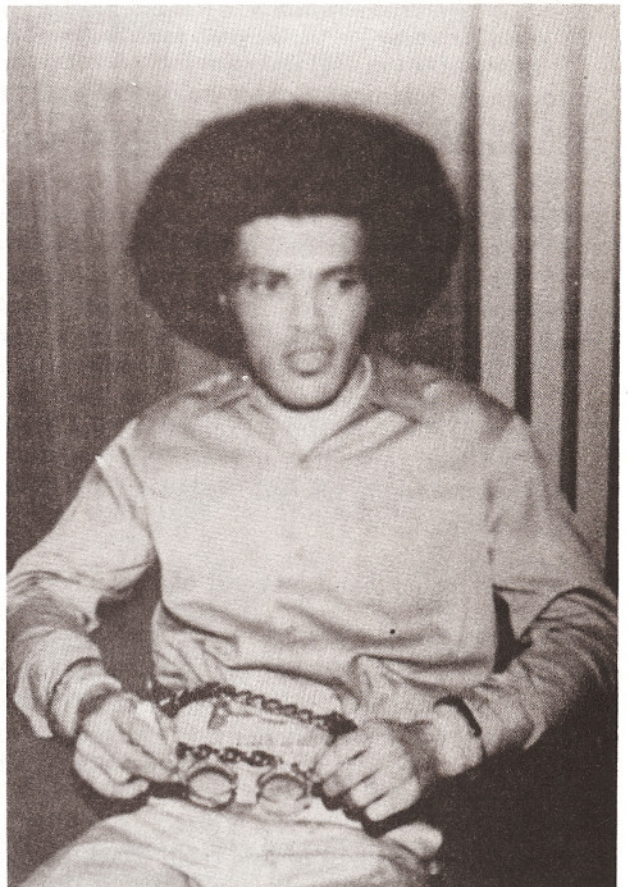
Also found guilty in the tainted verdict were David Johnson, 29, convicted of one count of assault on a guard; and Hugo Pinell, 32, for two counts of assault on guards.

Acquitted of all charges were Willie Tate, 31, Luis Talamantez, 32, and Fleeta Drumgo, 30. In all, the jury returned "not guilty" verdicts in 40 of the 46 counts in the multiple indictments against the six defendants.

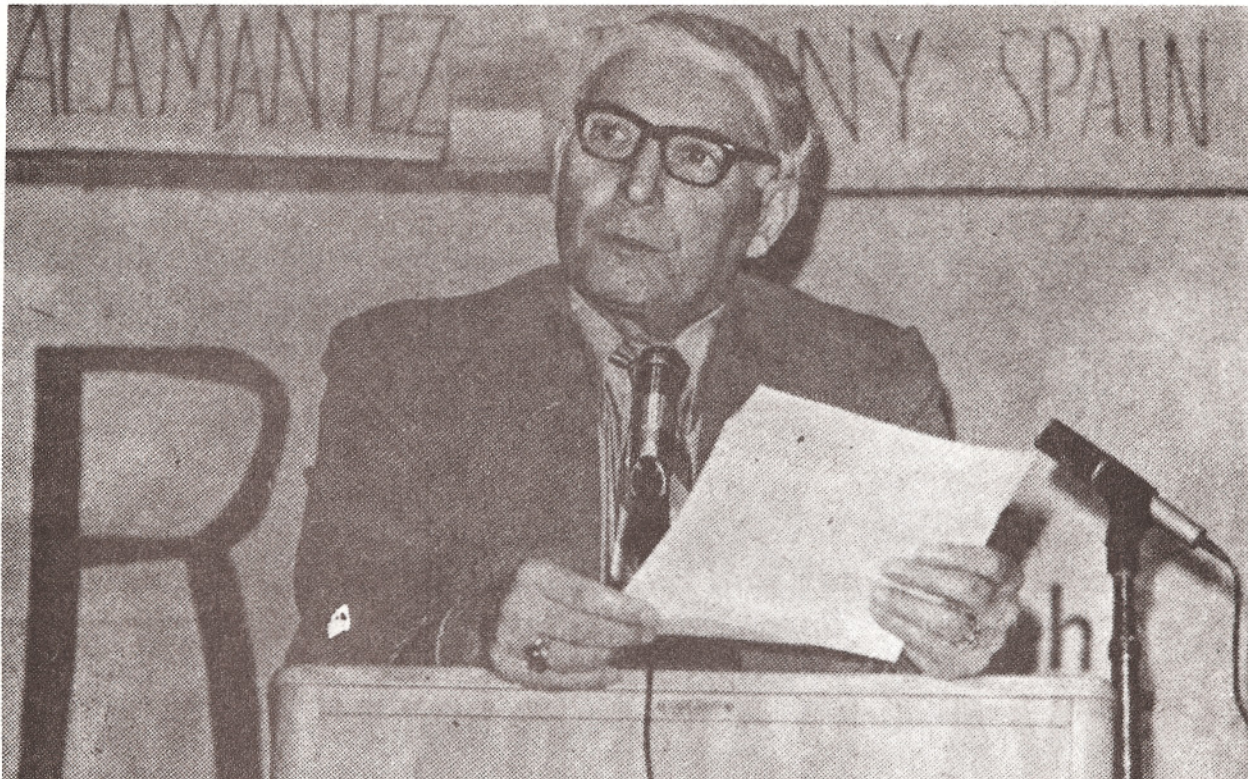
Incredibly, several of the jurors admitted following the trial that they "accepted" the prosecution's "gun-in-a-wig" theory, that author/revolutionary Jackson received a small .9mm Astra automatic from attorney Stephen Bingham

and then smuggled the pistol back to the notorious Adjustment Center under an Afro wig. Jackson, according to the prosecution witnesses, proclaimed, "The Black dragon has come to free you all" when he seized control of the AC.

"Yes, we accepted that theory," Ralph Long, a 59-year-old retired Mill Valley librarian told the *San Francisco Examiner*. "We knew the gun got



The harshest—and most horrendous—decision came down against Black Panther Party member Johnny Larry Spain, 27



During the trial, noted San Francisco attorney Charles R. Garry presented a structured and complete defense of "impaired consciousness" for Johnny Spain.

into the Adjustment Center somehow and that was the only way it could have gotten in."

By this, the jury rejected the contention of a veteran San Quentin admitting officer that it was totally impossible for Bingham to have brought a gun into the visiting room either via a tape recorder or within the attache case he carried. Defense attorneys argued that Paul Krasnes, one of the slain guards, had brought the gun into the AC in his back pocket as part of the set-up attempt. Defendant Hugo Pinell testified that he actually saw, through a mirror arrangement he had constructed in his cell, Krasnes pull the gun on Jackson.

On the other hand, several of the jurors also told the media they, in fact, believed the "counterconspiracy" plot involving state and federal law enforcement officials' attempts to halt Jackson's tremendous organizing abilities — to silence his internationally acclaimed, human views on prison reform and the transformation of American society.

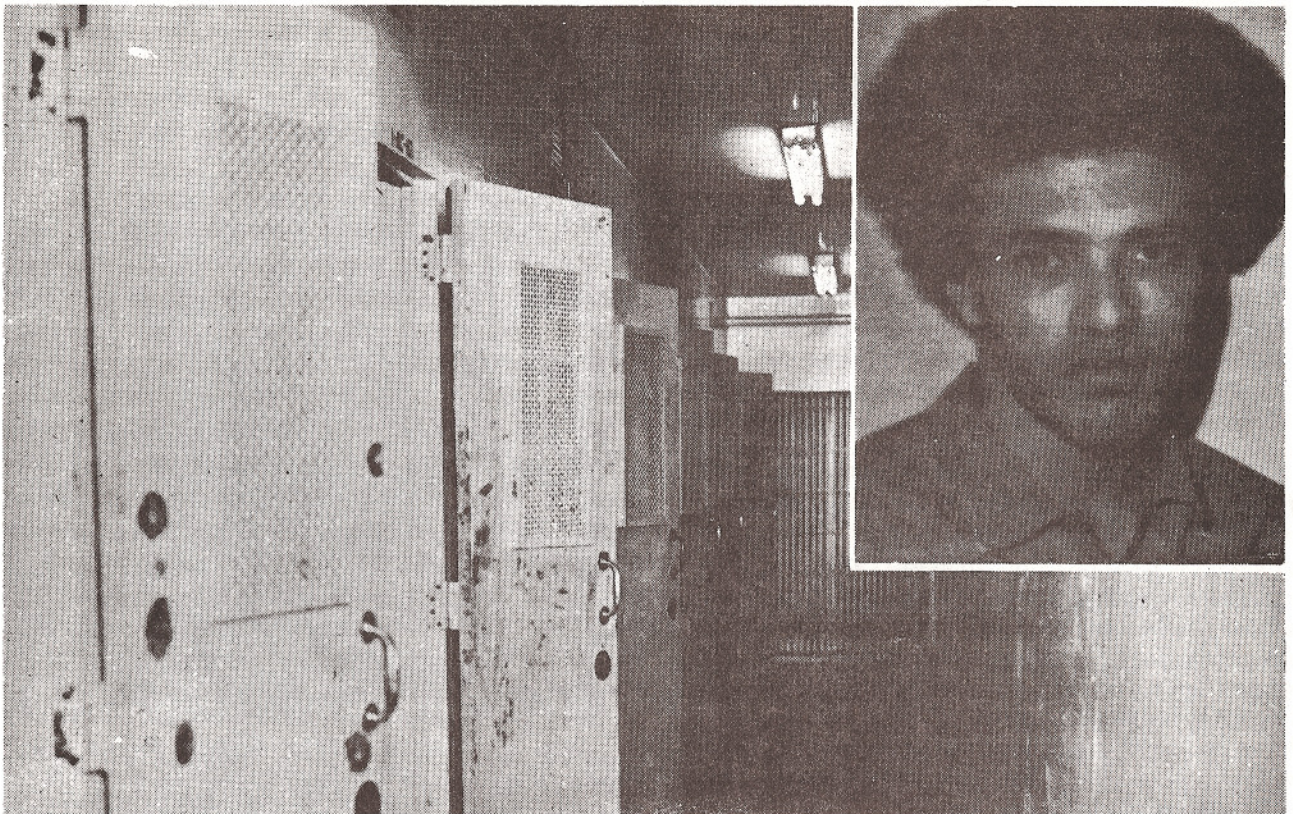
During the course of this trial, Black ex-agent provocateur Louis Tackwood testified that over the course of two years, he and 18 state and federal law enforcement officials, based primarily in Los Angeles worked day and night toward the

objectives of the assassination of George Jackson and the destruction of the Black Panther Party.

Despite the fact that Tackwood specifically identified all 18 people involved in the plot — clearly defining their roles and functions — the assistant D.A. Jerry Herman called no rebuttal witnesses to refute the charges.

Expressing doubt and confusion, which undoubtedly dominated the jury's lengthy deliberations, one of the jurors, Sandra Irish, a Wells Fargo Bank teller, told the *New York Times*: "I still don't think I know what were the circumstances of George Jackson's murder."

During the trial, noted San Francisco attorney Charles R. Garry presented a structured and complete defense of "impaired consciousness" for Spain. Garry argued that, as a result of rampant guard racism and "cesspool-like" conditions in the Adjustment Center, Spain suffered a temporary psychological experience similar to being "shell shocked" from the time his cell door opened until he dove into a hedge of bushes in the AC courtyard. George Jackson, Garry argued, was not killed as he ran to escape over a 25-foot high stone wall, but rather was murdered as he lay on the ground, wounded from a bullet wound in the ankle.



Above, photo of the Adjustment Center on August 21, 1971. About the San Quentin 6 verdict which resulted in the conviction of Black Panther Party member JOHNNY LARRY SPAIN (inset), Charles Garry said: "... who created the cesspool? Who created the conspiracy? Unfortunately, three got convicted and had to pay for their mistakes and the problems that were created by the society itself."

Defense attorneys for the three convicted defendants said, in preliminary statements, that they would immediately appeal the decision on the grounds that the defendants were illegally chained and shackled in their chairs throughout the trial. In his zeal to convict the Six, the attorneys said, Judge Henry Broderick ignored a state supreme court order banning chains and shackles in California courtrooms.

Following is the statement on the conviction of Johnny Larry Spain in the San Quentin 6 Trial issued by the Black Panther Party on August 12, 1976:

"The decision of the jury in the San Quentin Six case today reflected the impossibility of a Black person or, more, a member of the Black Panther Party to receive a fair trial in this country. Specifically, the harshest verdict, the conviction on two counts of first degree murder, was singly handed down to the only defendant who is a Black Panther Party member, Johnny Larry Spain. The only reasonable verdict for any or all of the defendants should have been not guilty. This nearly all-White, Marin County jury merely traded one life for others to create the semblance of justice for the record.

"The Black Panther Party denounces this verdict for it defies real and total justice, while implicating indirectly another of our comrades, who was outright assassinated on that August 21, 1971 — George Jackson. The jury, by finding any defendant guilty, have become collaborators in the events of that day, which events included the government assassination of George Jackson, for clearly not one shred of evidence was ever presented to support a guilty verdict for any defendant. Johnny Spain was convicted of guilt by association, association with a friend, George Jackson, and with an organization, the Black Panther Party.

"Ultimately he will be free, one way or another; but his conviction proves positively one thing, beyond a doubt; that government assassination and murder can be justified in this country's judicial system and that only a serious change in that system, a court system controlled by the people, will produce justice.

"We will move, at this time, to appeal this abominable decision in an effort to continue to exploit all legal means to free Johnny Spain." □

Reprinted from "The Black Panther"

“ON WITHDRAWAL”

by George Jackson

The assassination of George Jackson, still officially unresolved today by a noncommittal verdict in the San Quentin 6 trial, came on August 21, 1971. The brilliant author and people's strategist lays out in this excerpt from his book "Blood In My Eye," a plan of action still relevant today for those seeking justice. He argues that we should not "withdraw" from the cities where Blacks, Latinos and many poor whites are left concentrated without adequate employment or services, but should build our own survival apparatus, our own "central city commune," and force the rich and powerful to themselves withdraw. Only building these bases of power in the city, which will be difficult and perhaps violent, will keep us from being bounced back and forth between the fake "reforms" of one party and the violent repression of the other, always powerless because we have not seized power.

SYLLOGISM, n. argument with two premises and a conclusion; a logical scheme of a formal argument consisting of a major and minor premise and a conclusion which must logically be true if the premises are true.

—Merriam-Webster

After revolution has failed, all questions must center on *how* a new revolutionary consciousness can be mobilized around the new set of class antagonisms that have been created by the authoritarian reign of terror. At which level of social, political and economic life should we begin our new attack?

First, we, the Black partisans and their vanguard party, the old and new left alike, must concede that the worker's revolution and its vanguard parties have failed to deliver the promised changes in property relations or any of the institutions that support them. This must be conceded without bitterness, name-calling, or the intense rancor that is presently building.

There have been two depressions, two great wars, a dozen serious recessions, a dozen brush wars, crisis after economic crisis. The mass psycho-social national cohesiveness has trembled on the brink of disruption and disintegration repeatedly over the last fifty years, threatening to fly apart from its own concentric inner dynamics.

But at each crisis it was allowed to reform itself; with each reform, revolution became more remote. This is because the old left has failed to understand the true nature of fascism.

We will never have a complete definition of fascism, because it is in constant motion showing a new face to fit any particular set of problems that arise to threaten the predominance of the traditionalist, capitalist ruling class. But if one were forced for the sake of clarity to define it in a word simple enough for all to understand, the word would be "reform." We can make our definition more precise by adding the word "economic." "Economic reform" comes very close to a working definition of fascist motive forces.

Such a definition may serve to clarify things even though it leaves a great deal unexplained. Each economic reform that perpetuates ruling class hegemony has to be disguised as a positive gain for the upthrusting masses. Disguise enters as a third stage of the emergence and development of the fascist state. The modern industrial fascist state has found it essential to disguise the opulence of its ruling class's leisure existence by providing the lower classes with a mass consumer's flea market of its own.

To allow a sizable portion of the "new state" to participate in this flea market, the ruling class has established currency controls and minimum wage laws that mask the true nature of modern fascism. Reform (the closed economy) is only a new way for capitalism to protect and develop fascism!



After the German SS agents or Italian Black Shirts kick in the doors and herd Jews and Communist partisans to death camps, after Peg-Leg White's Black Legion terror and the Guardians of the Republic and their offspring legitimize the F.B.I., in other words, after the fascists have succeeded in crushing the vanguard elements and the threat they pose is removed, the ruling class goes on about the business of making profits as usual.

The significance of the "new fascist arrangement" lies in the fact that this business-as-usual is accompanied by concessions to the degenerate segment of the working class, with the aim of creating a buffer zone between the ruling class and the still potentially revolutionary segments of the lower classes.

NEW CORPORATE STATE

Corporative ideals have reached their logical conclusion in the U.S. The new corporate state has fought its way through crisis after crisis, established its ruling elites in every important institution, formed its partnership with labor through its elites, erected the most massive network of protective agencies replete with spies, technical and animal, to be found in any police state in the world. The violence of the ruling class of this country in the long process of its trend toward authoritarianism and its last and highest state, fascism, cannot be rivaled in its excesses by any other nation on earth today or in history.

With each advancement in the authoritarian process and strengthening of the ruling class's control over the system, there was a corresponding weakening of the people's and workers' movement.

And intellectuals still argue whether Amerika is a fascist country. This concern is typical of the Amerikan left's flight from reality, from any truly extreme position. This is actually a manifestation of the authoritarian process seeping into its own psyche. At this state, how can anyone question this existence of a fascist arrangement? Just consider the awesome centralization of power, and the proven fact that the largest part of the Gross National Product is in the hands of a minute portion of the population.

Of course, the revolution has failed. Fascism has temporarily succeeded under the guise of reform. The only way we can destroy it is to refuse to compromise with the enemy state and its ruling class. Compromises were made in the thirties, the forties, the fifties. The old vanguard parties made gross strategic and tactical errors. At the existential moment, the last revelation about oneself, not many members of the old vanguard choose to risk their whole futures, their lives, in order to alter the conditions that Huey P. Newton describes as "destructive of life."

Reformism was allowed. The more degenerate elements of the working class were the first to succumb. The vanguard parties supported the capitalistic war adventure in World War II. Then they helped to promote the mass consumers' market that followed the close of the war, the flea market that muted the workers' more genuine demands. Today we are faced with a clearly different set of class antagonisms, the complexities of a particularly refined fascist economic arrangement, where the controlling elites have coopted large portions of the lowly working class.

When we ask ourselves: Where will we attack the enemy state? We are answered: At the productive point.

The next logical question is: With whom and what will we attack the fortified entrance of the productive and distributive system in a nation of short-sighted, contented, conservative workers? Obviously, the fascist movement is counter-revolution at its very center. Fascist reformism is a calculated response to the classic, scientific-socialist approach to revolution through positive mobilization of the working classes. From its inception the fascist arrangement has attempted

to create the illusion of a mass society in which the traditional capitalist ruling class would continue to play its leading role. A mass society that is not a mass society; a mass society of authoritarians whose short-term material interests are perfectly suited to the development of the perfect totalitarian state and centralized economy.

The most precise definitions of fascism involve the concept of "scientific capitalism," or "controlled capitalism," a sophisticated, totalitarian, "learned" response to the challenge of egalitarian, scientific socialism. After its successful establishment in Spain, Portugal, Greece, South Africa and the United States of America, we are faced with the obvious question of "how to raise a new consciousness."

We are faced with the task of raising a positive mobilization of revolutionary consciousness in a mass that has "gone through" a contrapositive, authoritarian process.

The new vanguard elements seem to agree that withdrawal from the enemy state and its social, political and economic life is the first step toward its destruction. The new vanguard elements seem to agree that the new revolutionary consciousness will develop in the struggles of withdrawal. However, after this point, agreement grows vague and is all but lost in a sea of contradiction. The contention turns on one primary question — the scope and range of violence within the revolutionary process.

IDEOLOGICAL BATTLE

After the lengthy and clearly unnecessary ideological battle that laid to rest a direct approach to revolution by the White or Black worker, we are now faced with an equally unnecessary ideological battle over which of the various communal (revolutionary cultural) approaches has the stronger revolutionary validity.

The problem is compounded by almost apolitical withdrawal of the growing Weatherman faction, and their estranged allies on campus, to organic food gardens and a life of sex, music and drugs. Their Nietzschean-Hegelian withdrawal mimics the European historical experience of the last five generations. In our question, this must be considered the minor side of the syllogism. Though revolution is in fashion, the realistic, cohesive synergism seems as yet impossibly remote.

On the other side of the equation, we have

Huey Newton's concept of Black communes set well within the huge population centers of the enemy state. This concept accepts any level of violence that will be necessary to enforce the demands of the people and workers. These communes will be tied to one another by a national and international vanguard party and joined with the world's other revolutionary societies. They are the obvious answer to all the theoretical and practical questions and problems about an American revolution — a revolution that will be carried out principally by Blacks.

The question I've asked myself over the years runs this way: Who has done most of the dying? Most of the work? Most of the time in prison (on Max Row)? Who is the hindmost in every aspect of social, political and economic life? Who has the least short-term interest — or no interest at all — in the survival of the present state? In this condition, how could we believe in the possibility of a new generation of enlightened fascists who would dismantle the basis of their hierarchy?

Just how many Americans are willing to accept the physical destruction of some parts of their fatherland so that the rest of the land and the world might survive in good health? How can the Black industrial worker be induced to carry out a valid worker's revolutionary policy? What and who will guide him?

The commune. The central citywide revolutionary culture. But who will build the commune that will guide the people into a significant challenge to property rights? Carving out a commune in the central city will involve claiming certain rights as our own — out front. Rights that have not been respected to now. Property rights. It will involve building a political, social and economic infrastructure, capable of filling the vacuum that has been left by the establishment ruling class and pushing the occupying forces of the enemy culture from our midst.

IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of this new social, political and economic program will feed and comfort all the people on at least a subsistence level, and force the "owners" of the enemy bourgeois culture either to tie their whole fortunes to the communes and the people, or to leave the land, the tools and the market behind. If he will not leave voluntarily, we will expel him — we will use the shotgun and the antitank rocket launcher!!

Who will build on an ideal that begins with force? The vanguard party is now nationwide.

George Jackson, brilliant author, people's strategist and field marshal of the Black Panther Party, whose assassination is still officially unresolved today by a non-committal verdict in San Quentin 6 trial.



But vanguard parties cannot build revolutions alone. Nor can a vanguard party expect full party line agreements before it moves in the direction of the people. Revolution is illegal. It's against the law. It's prohibited. It will not be allowed. It is clear that the revolutionary is a lawless man. The outlaw and the lumpen will make the revolution. The people, the workers, will adopt it. This must be the new order of things, after the fact of the modern industrial fascist state.

In Blacks, the authoritarian traits are mainly the effects of terrorism and lack of intellectual stimulation. The communal experience will redeem them. At present, the Black worker is simply choosing the less dangerous and complicated strategy of survival. All classes and all people are subject to the authoritarian syndrome. It is an atavistic throwback to the herd instincts. But it requires only the proper trauma, the proper eco-sociological set of circumstantial pressures to bring forth a revolutionary consciousness.

Racism enters on the psycho-social level, in the form of a morbid, traditional fear of both Blacks and revolutions. The resentment of Blacks, and conscious or unconscious tendencies to mete out pain to Blacks, throughout the history of Amerika's slave systems, all came into focus when Blacks began the move from South to North and from countryside to city to compete with Whites in industrial sectors, and, in general, engage in status competition. Resentment, fear, insecurity, and the usual isolation that is patterned into every modern, capitalist industrial society (the more complex the products,

the greater the division of labor; the higher the pyramid, the broader its base and the smaller the individual brick tends to feel) are multiplied by ten when racism, race antagonism, is also a factor.

There is certainly no lack of evidence to prove the existence of an old and built-in character assassination of programmed racism (what class controls the nation's educational facilities, prints the newspapers and magazines that carry the little cartoons, and omits or misrepresents us to death?) has always served to distract and defuse feelings of status deprivation suffered by the huge sectors just above the Black one. Then also to account for the seemingly dual nature recognizable in the authoritarian personality (conformity, but also a strange latent destructiveness), racism has always been employed as a pressure release for the psychopathic destructiveness evinced by a people historically processed to fear, to feel the need for a decision maker, to hate freedom.

The revolutionary is outlawed. The Black revolutionary "is a doomed man." All of the forces of counterrevolution stack up over his head. He's standing in the tank-trap he has dug. He lives in the cross hairs. No one can understand the feeling but himself. "From the beginning" of his revolutionary consciousness he must use every device to stay alive. Violence is a forced issue. It is incumbent on him. The very first political programs have had to be defended with duels to the death. The children's breakfast programs haven't been spared. The next round of commune building could cause the third great war of the century.

We must build with the fingers of one hand wrapped around a gun (an anti-personnel weapon). We cannot leave the central city. This must be understood by the other revolutionary people if we are to move together to conclusive action.

The war will be fought in the nerve centers of the nation, the cities where Angela was finally captured as she was at work for the revolution, where Huey was found hiding and working by the government's propaganda apparatus.

We cannot withdraw from the cities. In order to complete the revolutionary syllogism, the fascists must be forced to withdraw. And under cover of the guns which force their withdrawal, we will build the new Black communes. A BLADE IN THE THROAT OF FASCISM.

GEORGE JACKSON LIVES!

NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

This month's "National Perspective" focuses on three examples of the struggle of the "Mexicano" people, those of Mexican origin who were born in or have moved to this country. In the last ten years their movement has grown to include hundreds of thousands, reaffirming their identity and unity with the people in Mexico and educating their children to the fact that while their lands in California, Arizona, Texas and New Mexico were virtually taken in Vietnam-styled wars by the U.S., they live and work in this country as second class citizens. Their oppression continues today wherever they have been brought to work — usually at cheap wages. For white people, their quickly growing movement brings home the truth that "while people of darker skins are enslaved and oppressed, none of us can be free."

Agricultural Workers Organize For Political Power

(Milwaukee, Wisc.) The inhuman living and working conditions forced upon agricultural workers by labor contractors and large agribusinesses are the focus of a growing, organized movement in this "progressive-thinking" state.

After a long and arduous struggle, begun two years ago by the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC), two bills have been defeated by the state legislature since January, 1976 while a third, revised bill, proposed to the state legislature at the request of Wisconsin Governor Lucey's Committee on Migratory Labor, was defeated by a 48-47 vote; the second bill was defeated, 50-45.

The powerful Wisconsin Canners and Freezers Association and its giant members (including Del Monte, Libby's and Stokely) lobbied desperately to defeat this progressive legislation. Their one year campaign was motivated by fear of the bills' provisions which would establish a 16-man Council on Migratory Labor to supervise the growers' treatment of agricultural workers,

while forcing the growers to pay fair wages and guarantee minimum job security to Wisconsin's ten to fifteen thousand Chicano workers and their families.

Important provisions of the revised bill include: minimum ten minute rest periods every five hours, individual work agreements to be signed by the growers, the end of the restriction of visitors to the camps by the growers, no more arbitrary deductions from wages, and regular state-supervised inspection of the camps.

Efforts to insure passage of the legislation in February include work in the state assembly elections this November by agricultural workers' supporters. Choosing selected races across the state, organizers have targeted those assemblymen who have actively organized against the legislation such as R. Pabst, Devitt and Thomas Hanson from Milwaukee. Meanwhile, active support has been given to Monroe Swan of Milwaukee and Carl Otte of Sheboygan and other candidates who have been sympathetic to the plight of agricultural workers. State committees



The main effort of the agricultural workers has been the development of unified political power. State Rep. Monroe Swan (inset) has been sympathetic to the plight of the workers.

have been formed to visit candidates and remind them of their obligations to the workers.

With the main effort being the development of unified political power among the Chicano and Mexicano people in the state of Wisconsin, organizers have turned much of their attention to the unionization of agricultural workers and the fight against the repressive practices of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. Summarizing this effort, Ernesto Chacon, field coordinator of the Latin American Union for Civil Rights (one of the organizations leading the struggle) in a recent interview said, "When Milwaukee labor democrats vote against the interest of farm laborers, we can be certain that the money and organized power of agribusiness are speaking through them. What we must do is to organize our own power base which we can use to make these legislators respond, and this we are doing right now."□

Farm Workers Mobilize Support For Prop. 14 Campaign

(Oakland, Calif.) The United Farmworkers (UFW) of America has launched a statewide campaign to secure the November passage of a ballot measure aimed at guaranteeing the union election process in the fields. Proposition 14, the Farm Worker Initiative, qualified for the ballot

after the UFW gathered nearly 800,000 signatures on petitions in less than a month this past spring.

Union elections in the field first began last summer under the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975. They were stopped early this year when the combined forces of grower interests and the Teamsters Union successfully prevented further state legislature funding of the Board supervising the elections. During the elections held up to that point, the UFW had quadrupled its membership under contract and expanded to nearly fifteen areas of the state.

Faced with the prospects of a law that is even more UFW-oriented than the original Agricultural Labor Relations Act, the growers reversed their position last month and allowed the election board to be refunded, in hopes of short-circuiting Proposition 14. However, the Agriculture Board will not function again until at least October, and the UFW wants to put the whole election process on a firmer footing.

Once the Farm Worker initiative is passed by a vote of the people, it can be amended only through another statewide initiative process. The most important aspect of the initiative is that it requires the legislature to keep the election process funded.

UFW president Cesar Chavez has promised to throw all available resources into obtaining a huge "Yes" vote on Proposition 14. The campaign, similar to one that defeated a grower-backed anti-union measure in 1972, will focus on house-to-house organizing, rallies and marches.

continued on the next page



In order to gain free elections in California the UFW has waged a statewide campaign around Proposition 14.

mass organizations and movement groups. Workers at the 207 ranches where the UFW won elections will be eligible to elect delegates to the convention.

The UFW has used the break in the election process to organize these new workers and sign contracts. Thus far nearly fifty new contracts cover farm workers in lettuce, tomatoes and other row crop vegetables as well as grapes and apples. Nearly half the lettuce coming from Salinas, the industry's center, now bears the UFW label.

The process of establishing a new contract involves organizing a worker negotiating committee to hammer out a contract with the grower; electing a ranch leadership committee and a health and safety committee; setting up the seniority list and the hiring hall, and beginning to enforce the contract's provisions. It is a complete and often difficult organizing process, especially in areas where the union has not previously had a contract with which it could educate the workers.

As part of the contract negotiating process with an Oxnard mushroom company called West Foods, the UFW has again turned to the boycott as a weapon to force good faith bargaining by the company. West Foods is owned by the Dole Corporation, and so the union has asked its supporters to boycott Dole bananas until the West Foods contract is signed.

One immediate result of the new contracts is a sharp increase in revenues for the union, both from farm workers' dues and from grower payments into such funds as the Robert F. Kennedy Medical Plan. This new money is being

used to expand the network of union clinics as well as to allow the union's service center to expand their community organizing programs.

Over all, there is a feeling of great excitement among the workers and staff at the opportunities presented by the expansion of the union's base. □

Reprinted from "The Black Panther"

Mexicanos Demand Justice

(Castroville, Texas) Police Chief Frank Hayes, originally charged with the capital murder of Reuben Morales here, has been convicted of greatly reduced charges of aggravated assault and sentenced to ten years in prison.

Mexicanos throughout the area have rallied to see that justice is done in this case — a cold-blooded murder that exemplifies the flagrant injustice community leaders describe as commonplace here. The population of Castroville and the rest of Medina County is a least 50 percent Mexicano.

Demonstrations have been held in Hondo and San Antonio. Community leaders have called on the Justice Department to intervene, charging that the department has consistently ignored similar cases of official murder.

Mr. Morales, a 26-year-old construction worker, was one of nine children in a poor family headed by a disabled father. Eleven months ago he was arrested at night by Deputy Donald C. McCall on two misdemeanor theft warrants charging that Mr. Morales had sold, but not delivered, a calf. A few hours later he was murdered.

Deputy McCall said in a sworn statement that on the night of the arrest and killing Chief Hayes pulled up in his private car accompanied by Dennis E. Dunford, boyfriend of the chief's daughter. Deputy McCall stated that the chief punched Mr. Morales in the stomach and said, "Let the son of a bitch go; uncuff him and let him run so I can shoot him." Part-time jailor S.W. Worthy said he heard the chief threaten Morales "at least ten times."

Chief Hayes did not take the handcuffs off, according to the deputy. He put Mr. Morales in



Demonstrations have been held calling on the Justice Department (having ignored similar cases) to intervene. At right demonstrators march for justice for another Mexican murdered by Oakland, California police.



his car and drove to a bridge down the road. The deputy and jailor followed in another car. At the bridge, Deputy McCall testified that Chief Hayes said, "I don't want to do it here. Follow me."

They stopped on the road, and, the deputy said, he was ordered to remove the handcuffs from Mr. Morales' wrists. "While I was attempting to," he testified, "Frank (the police chief) struck Morales several times in the stomach with the shotgun." Chief Hayes said, "I have killed a Mexican before, and I'm fixing to kill another one." A 12 gauge shotgun blast followed shortly after.

The next day the chief's wife, Dorothy Hayes, her sister and her daughter were stopped by police in central Texas. Blood stains, two shovels and a pickax were found in the car. After questioning, she led police to Mr. Morales' three foot grave. She had driven the body 350 miles across Texas and buried it.

Mrs. Hayes pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor charge of tampering with physical evidence, received one year probation and a fine of \$49.50 for court costs. Her sister, her daughter, the boyfriend, the deputy and the jailor were never charged.

Murder charges against Chief Hayes were reduced by the state, and his attorney got a change of venue (place) to San Angelo, 180 miles northwest of here where the chief was tried and

convicted on the aggravated assault charge. Of 76 prospective jurors, three were Mexicanos, and they were excluded by the defense with preemptory (no reason) challenges. The final jury had 11 white people and one Black person.

The Morales family's attorney, Ruben Sandoval, a San Antonio civil rights lawyer, explained the importance of the case; "The Justice Department has clear authority, but they say it's been policy not to intervene when the state is handling it. It's worse here than it was in Mississippi in the early '60's.

"It's racial, but it goes way beyond race. It's the mentality that permeates this state that a badge and a uniform gives a license to do just about anything.

They talk about due process. Well, we live in an area where there is no such animal, and we've got the body count to back up that assertion."

He said that in San Antonio, where the majority of the people are Mexicanos, 19 youths between the ages of 16 and 19 were killed by the police in the last 11 months. He said that was typical across the state of Texas.

In August, eleven months after Mr. Morales' murder, Attorney General Edward H. Levi said that the Justice Department's original refusal to take action was under review since "new information" had come to their attention. □

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INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE

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INTERCOMMUNAL PERSPECTIVE

Colonial Status Of Puerto Rico Slated For Debate At U.N.

The 24-country Decolonization Committee of the United Nations, scheduled to meet in late August, is expected to take up the issue of Puerto Rico's status. Activists for a free and independent Puerto Rico are calling for strong and organized actions to meet this important development in the history of their movement, *Liberation News Service* reports. The Decolonization Committee's discussion of Puerto Rico is expected to focus on a 1975 resolution affirming "the inalienable right of the Puerto Rican people to self-determination and independence."

A year ago the U.S. succeeded in postponing a vote on that resolution on the grounds that time for further investigation was required. Later it was established that Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, then U.S. ambassador to the U.N. Daniel Moynihan and other U.S. officials had warned several of the countries on the Committee that a vote backing the resolution would be considered an "unfriendly act"—implying the U.S. would retaliate by withholding economic aid or other favors. The vote in favor of postponement was 11 to 9, with 2 abstentions and 2 absent or not participating. American officials, *The New York Times* reported afterwards, were "jubilant" at the outcome of the vote.

Puerto Rico's status in relation to the U.S. has been an issue in the U.N. ever since the organization's beginning in 1945. At its founding meeting the U.N. drew up a list of all territories and people that had not yet attained independence, among them Puerto Rico. All countries, including the U.S., were required to submit reports to the U.N. secretary general regarding their colonial possessions.

Then, in 1953, the U.N. General Assembly narrowly passed a resolution relieving the U.S. of its obligation. It was based on the United States' claim that the Puerto Rican people had opted for a new legal status as a commonwealth in a 1952 referendum.

The referendum had been held under full U.S. military occupation, with the prisons full of "independistas" and had offered voters only a choice between the traditional colonialism that had existed up to that time and a new regime of disguised colonialism under the title of "commonwealth status."

The possibility for the Puerto Rican people, through the U.N., to link their struggle for independence to the worldwide anti-colonial wave opened up in 1960 with the U.N. Declaration for the Independence of Colonial Countries and Peoples, or Resolution 1514.

By this important resolution, the U.N. broadened the scope of its action on colonialism to include "all territories which have not yet attained independence," a clear reference to Puerto Rico. Furthermore, the resolution established independence as a prerequisite for self-determination. When the Special Committee on Decolonization was established the following November to implement the resolution, the stage was set for a long uphill battle by the independence movement to place the colonial case of Puerto Rico once again on the agenda of the U.N. and the world.

U.N. debate on Puerto Rico re-emerged in 1972



In 1973 thousands marched to the U.N. in favor of the resolution supporting Puerto Rico's independence.



The colonial status of Puerto Rico is being challenged in the U.N.

and again in 1973, when the Puerto Rican Independence Party and the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) sent urgent messages to the Decolonization Committee. The messages described U.S. government plans to establish a petroleum and mineral shipping and processing complex in Puerto Rico. The complex, they said, "would represent a mortal blow to the ecology of Puerto Rico," and convert the island into a way-station for U.S. petroleum.

The U.S. delegation to the U.N. did its best to have sections pertaining to Puerto Rico dropped from the 1973 Decolonization Committee report. It argued that the question of Puerto Rico's status had been outside the U.N.'s rightful jurisdiction since 1953. But the General Assembly ratified the report in its full version by an overwhelming vote—104 in favor, 5 opposed and 19 abstentions.

Since the postponement of a vote on the 1975 Decolonization resolution last August, two historic pieces of legislation concerning the status of Puerto Rico have been introduced in the U.S. Congress. The first, called the "Compact of Permanent Union," essentially repeats the device used by the U.S. in 1952, rewording the legal status of Puerto Rico in relation to the U.S., while leaving the colonial relationship between the two intact.

The U.S. State Department and other forces in the government were anxious to pass the Compact before the August meeting of the Decolonization Committee, so that the U.S. could tell the U.N. that the issue is being solved by a joint commission and that the U.N. discussion would be interfering in U.S. — Puerto Rico internal affairs. But people supporting Puerto Rican independence raised such a furor during discussions of the bill that the possibility of its being railroaded through was prevented.

The other bill of importance for Puerto Rico's future this year is one that would deed independence to the island. In his presentation of the bill July 1, Congressman Dellums told Congress: "I introduce this resolution because I think there is nothing more fitting we can do to celebrate the Bicentennial of the Declaration of Independence than to give freedom back to our colony." □

Reprinted from "The Black Panther"

Black Rebellions Spread In South Africa

Mass revolts continued last month throughout South Africa as the Black rebellions spread from the Black township of Soweto outside of Johannesburg where it began in June to the Black townships outside of Capetown, Alexandria and Port Elizabeth. What started as peaceful demonstrations against the racist, inhuman system of apartheid has turned into bloody clashes as South African police have indiscriminately fired on the crowds killing over 1,000 people since June.

As the Western media reports on inter-tribal warfare and anarchy, few have dealt with the underlying reasons behind the recent uprisings. Under the South African system of apartheid the society is strictly segregated, with the whites owning all of the best land, holding all of the best jobs and reaping all of the benefits of this highly industrialized society. Blacks, who make up 75% of the population, are crowded onto 13% of the land and are not allowed to own any property at all near any of the white sectors. Blacks are forced to work either menial jobs or hard labor in the gold mines or factories. Unemployment among the Black population is close to 30%. The



U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and South African Prime Minister Vorster meet as the S. African government becomes more and more dependent on outside assistance. At right, demonstrations against the racist, inhuman system of apartheid spread.

average per capita income of Blacks is \$8 a month compared to \$150 a month for whites. 25% of all Black households have no cash income at all.

Despite intense international pressure to end this unjust system, the racist South African government has developed even more repressive plans. The latest plan is to create "independent black homelands" along Black ethnic lines and to move all of the Black population into these areas. These Black homelands would be completely controlled by the South African government with almost no economy of their own. Passes would be issued to allow Blacks to enter white areas to work, but no Blacks would be allowed to permanently live in the white areas. Most workers would have to commute to their jobs in the white areas, often spending as much as three hours traveling to and from work and spending as much as 10% of their already meager income on transportation. Even with the recent uprisings rapidly spreading throughout the country, the racist South African government has chosen to enforce its policies and rule with murder rather than create even the semblance of justice for the Black majority.

As the internal situation grows worse and the price of gold (South Africa's chief source of foreign income) on the world market drops, the racist South African government is becoming more and more dependent on some kind of outside assistance. Many observers speculate that this is what is behind the current meeting in Zurich, Switzerland between U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and South African Prime Minister Vorster. This becomes even more

evident in light of recent revelations that the U.S. is negotiating to establish a naval base on the east coast of South Africa on the land of one of the "independent" Black homelands. It has become quite obvious that the United States intends to save the South African government by negotiating favors for itself at the expense of the blood of the Black majority. □

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